Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXII, Issue No. 166 | SATURDAY - SUNDAY JULY 14-15, 2012 | www.saipantribune.com 50¢

NMC operating at a loss due to low number of students. PAGE 2
Am. Samoa lawsuit seeks automatic US citizenship. PAGE 5

NMI braces for new minimum WAGE HIKE

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Minimum wage in the CNMI will increase by another 50 cents on Sept. 30, bringing it to $5.55 an hour but the scheduled hike is drawing varied views amid work hour cuts, a lingering economic malaise, mounting government debts, and a lack of transitional work permits for thousands of foreign workers, many of whom are paid minimum wage.

President Barack Obama signed a law in 2010 delaying a scheduled 50-cent increase for 2011. That delay was a result of Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan's (Ind-MP) request, with the support of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce and the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, two of the largest business groups in the CNMI.

The 50-cent increase resumes on

See WAGE on Page 4

A DKK Inc. construction worker guides the pouring of concrete at Garapan Elementary School. On Sept. 30, the CNMI's minimum wage will increase by another 50 cents, bringing it to $5.55 an hour but the scheduled hike is drawing varied reactions amid a lingering economic crunch. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

PNG charges 29 alleged cannibals

By ROD McGUIR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Authorities have arrested 29 people accused of being part of a cannibal cult in Papua New Guinea's jungle interior and charged them with the murders of seven suspected witch doctors, police said Friday.

Madang Police Commander Anthony Wagambie confirmed a report in *The National* newspaper that said the cult members allegedly ate their victims' brains raw and made soup from their penises.

"They don't think they've done anything wrong; they admit what they've done openly," Wagambie told The Associated Press by telephone.

He said the killers believed that their victims practiced "sanguma," or sorcery, and that they had been extorting money as well as demanding sex from poor villagers for their supernatural services.

By eating witch doctors' organs, the cult members believed they would attain supernatural pow-

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Parents file lawsuit for son's drowning

The owners of B&R Auto Shop have filed a lawsuit against a dive company and its dive master for the drowning of their son during a scuba diving trip with friends at Lau Lau Bay last year.

B&R Auto Shop owner Sung Keun Yu and Jung Jo Choy, the surviving parents of Seung Bum Yu, together with the deceased's estate and its administrator, Jung Hoon Tae, are suing Galaxy Company Ltd., doing business as Divers Paradise in Saipan Inc., and its dive master Rex R. Jose.

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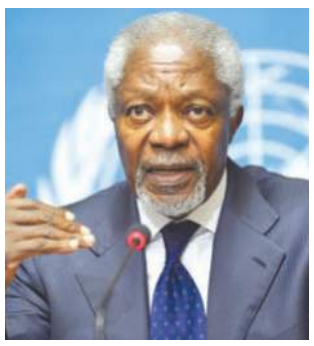
OPINION METER
This week's poll:

Should the optional services being provided to Medicaid beneficiaries be eliminated?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

WORLD



Syrian activists report a new massacre that killed more than 100 people. ➤ PAGE 16

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

Homeowners shouldn't be closed-minded when it comes to interior doors. ➤ PAGE 19

LIFE & STYLE

Steven Tyler is exiting "American Idol" to put rock 'n' roll first. ➤ PAGE 20

Local

NMC operating at a loss due to low number of students

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

For many years now the Northern Marianas College has been operating at a loss, mainly because it allowed smaller class sizes, according to college president Sharon Y. Hart yesterday.

To maximize college resources and to implement a "balance" in the college's operations, Hart said that NMC will no longer offer courses with less than 20 students.

This new policy takes effect beginning this summer through the fall semester and until further notice.

NMC, Hart said, can realize savings by not adding faculty members for small classes.

"We will try not to offer courses with less than 20 students. Many classrooms now only accommodate 18…and we're already operating at a loss with some of our classes now," said Hart.

Saipan Tribune learned that eight classrooms were recently renovated at the college in preparation for larger class sizes starting fall. The fall semester starts next month.

As for students who need to take certain courses but the classes don't get enough enrollees, Hart said that NMC will just hire an adjunct instructor—an option she described as more cost-effective instead of hiring full-time instructors for these small classes.

Adjunct instructors are paid based on hours and credits.

Saipan Tribune learned that some courses and classes will be exempted from the new class ratio. One of these is the nursing program, which is required to adhere to national standards and requirements, and some independent classes for graduating students.

NMC earlier disclosed that it usually has 12 students per classroom. Hart said that that the 20-students-per-class is a ratio acceptable in most community colleges.

As for its program and degree offerings, NMC cannot make any changes while it remains under show-cause status with the accrediting commission. At the same time, the college cannot introduce new programs unless approved by the commission.

Final draft

Hart told *Saipan Tribune* that the final draft of the college's comprehensive self-study report is expected next week in time for their target submission on Aug. 17.

Hart disclosed that Galvin Deleon Guerrero, NMC's former director of institutional effectiveness, had assured the college that he will help with the accreditation report until its submission next month.

Deleon Guerrero recently left NMC to become the new president of Mount Carmel School. Deleon Guerrero also served as the college's accreditation liaison officer.

NMC has yet to hire his replacement.

Decommissioned PSS buses eyed for bookmobiles

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Joeten Kiyu Public Library is eyeing the conversion of decommissioned public school buses for the planned expansion of its bookmobile program.

Library executive director John O. Gonzales said he will ask Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan if the Public School System's old buses can be donated to the library, which needs more vehicles for its bookmobile program.

The bookmobile is a mini-library on wheels that makes weekly visits to villages, providing free library service to anyone on Saipan. It carries all sorts of books, from fiction to non-fiction, both for adults and children. Checkout of these materials is limited to three books per card for a loan of three weeks.

The Joeten Kiyu Public Library has only one bookmobile that carries over 1,000 books.

Gonzales said the bookmobile program was created after the library learned that many students do not have transportation, which he said is a perennial problem in the CNMI.

In an effort to bring the library to these children, the Joeten Kiyu Public Library applied for federal funding for the bookmobile to happen.

Gonzales said they aim to get two decommissioned PSS buses that the library will customize. Like the existing bookmobile, laptops will also be placed in the rolling library.

Gonzales said the bookmobile has already served thousands of children and adults on island.

Information Tech Center patrons up

Gonzales also shared the success of the library's Information Technology Center, which has been attracting a record number of visitors.

Based on the latest numbers released by Gonzales's office, the center had 390 visitors in January this year, compared to only 163 visitors in the same period last year.

In February 2012, the center drew 581 patrons, a large jump compared to the 176 recorded in same month last year.

Significant increases were also noted in March 2012, with 496 visitors compared to 270 in March 2011. In April, a total of 421 patrons visited the center compared to last year's 219 visitors. May 2012 posted the highest number of visitors, 724, compared to only 299 in same period last year.

As of June 6, the center had 714 visitors—a big jump from the 254 visits in June 2011.

The center is equipped with 20 computers and regularly plays host to classes and workshops.

Grants to provide better transportation for veterans and their families

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood has announced $29 million in grants to provide improved access to local transportation for veterans and their families, wounded warriors, and other military personnel, helping them find affordable rides to work, school, shopping, medical care, and other destinations in their communities. The grants will support 64 projects in 33 states and the Northern Mariana Islands.

"Ensuring that our veterans and military families have access to quality, convenient transportation is just one way we can thank them for their service," said Secretary LaHood. "With these transportation grants, we will help connect veterans and military families with the jobs and training opportunities they deserve, as well as the medical care and other services they need, all located close to home."

In the CNMI, the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority will build and equip a One-Call/One-Click Center to coordinate current specialized transit and future public transportation services for hundreds of veterans and military personnel who live on the islands.

The Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative, funded and managed by the Federal Transit Administration, supports efforts by local governments and transit agencies to implement technologies—ranging from "smart phone" applications to real-time transit bus locator information—that make it easier for veterans and others to access and schedule rides on available buses, vans, taxis, and other transportation systems. The unemployment rate for Iraq and Afghanistan veterans is more than 12 percent, more than four percentage points above the national average.

"America's war heroes deserve a chance to support their families, participate in their communities, receive job training and get to work," said FTA Administrator Peter Rogoff, who was in Lee County, Florida, for the announcement. "It's vitally important that we remove barriers to success by making transportation available wherever our veterans choose to live, work and receive care."

FTA received 81 eligible proposals requesting $41 million for this second round of the Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative grants, reflecting strong demand for the program. In FY2011, FTA awarded $34.6 million for 55 veterans' transportation projects around the country.

The Obama Administration has committed roughly a $1 billion a year in discretionary resources to help communities around the nation build and expand light rail, commuter rail, bus rapid transit, and other forms of public transportation to connect American families, including our nation's returning veterans, with jobs, education, medical care and other vital services.

The Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative was developed by the Federal Interagency Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility, a permanent partnership of federal departments working together to better coordinate federal programs on behalf of people with disabilities, older adults and individuals with lower incomes. The Council is chaired by LaHood. ***(DOT)***

SENATE SESSION
Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota), left, who chairs the Special Committee on Retirement Fund Issues, and Sen. Jude Hofschneider, right, confer with House legal counsel John Cool about the House legislative initiative that seeks to authorize the flotation of a pension obligation bond to pay off the government's more than $320 million debt with the NMI Retirement Fund. The Senate held off voting on House Legislative Initiative 17-5 on Thursday.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Creditors committee chair objects to sale of Fund property

The chairman of the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors is objecting to the sale of the NMI Retirement Fund's 886-square-meter property in San Vicente for $125,000.

Mariano Taitano also questioned why the committee's counsel recently informed the U.S. District Court for the NMI's Bankruptcy Division that the committee has no objection to the sale.

Don Jeffrey Gelber, the Hawaii-based counsel for the committee, disclosed Taitano's objection to the court yesterday.

With Taitano's objection, Gelber asked the court to disregard the committee's response and deem it unfiled or withdrawn.

Gelber also asked the court take corrective action, if any, respecting its order approving the sale of the property as the court considers appropriate.

Last week, Gelber informed the court that they have no objection to the Fund's request for authority to sell the property. Gelber did not cite any reason why the committee does not object to the request.

Except for Florida-based lawyer Mary Flanagan, no other party has questioned the Fund's request to approve the sale.

Jeremy B. Coffey, the Fund's Boston-based counsel, told the court last month that the Fund believes that selling the property is in the best interest of the estate and its creditors because the sale proceeds will increase the estate's cash assets to the benefit of all creditors, and divest a non-core asset.

Coffey said the Fund has agreed to sell the property to James H. Arriola.

With no objection, U.S. District Court for the NMI Bankruptcy Division designated judge Robert J. Faris on Monday issued an order approving the sale.

But yesterday, Gelber said that Taitano alleges that he "objected to the sale of the property in any shape or form."

Gelber said Taitano contends that the committee's response should not have been filed and that Taitano has reported his complaint to the Office of the U.S. Trustee.

The lawyer did not mention the reasons cited by Taitano in objecting to the sale. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Parents file wrongful death lawsuit for son's drowning

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The owners of B&R Auto Shop have filed a lawsuit against a dive company and its dive master for the drowning of their son during a scuba diving trip with friends at Lau Lau Bay last year.

B&R Auto Shop owner Sung Keun Yu and Jung Jo Choy, the surviving parents of Seung Bum Yu, together with the deceased's estate and its administrator, Jung Hoon Tae, are suing Galaxy Company Ltd., doing business as Divers Paradise in Saipan Inc., and its dive master Rex R. Jose.

Also named co-defendant is PADI Americas, an international organization that conducts scuba diving courses and certifies divers at various skill levels.

The plaintiffs are suing all defendants for negligence. Divers Paradise, Jose, and PADI are also being sued for wrongful death.

The plaintiffs, through attorney Eric S. Smith, are demanding unspecified damages, attorney's fees, and court costs.

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain comments from Galaxy Company yesterday but a manager declined.

Seung Bum Yu, 35, was scuba diving with other persons, including dive instructor Jose, when the incident happened outside the reef of Lau Lau Beach on April 16, 2011.

According to the complaint, there was no pre-dive assessment of Yu's diving experience nor the level of his diving skills. Smith said that Jose devoted less than 15 minutes to provide instructions to all five of the dive party. There was no explanation as to a dive plan, he added.

Smith said the incident happened some 30 minutes into the dive, just as Jose had signaled for the divers to turn back to shore.

Initially, Yu was swimming next to his childhood friend, Jin Cho, as they began to return to shore following the other divers.

After a few minutes, Jin Cho noted that Yu was no longer next to him. He looked around and saw Yu behind him, who seemed to be having some difficulty with his breathing equipment.

Jin Cho saw Yu removing his mouthpiece regulator from his mouth and it appeared that he was going to surface.

At that moment, Jin Cho wanted to notify the instructor but he did not want to leave Yu. Jin Cho headed back to Yu to ascertain what the problem was. Since Yu appeared to be having difficulty ascending, Jin Cho grabbed him to help him to the surface.

Jin Cho attempted to inflate Yu's vest, by manipulating the control on Yu's vest, but it would not inflate.

Jin Cho was kicking hard and they were ascending. Yu was thrashing with his arms and legs. Yu hit Jin Cho's regulator knocking it out of the mouthpiece as they were heading to the surface.

At the surface, Yu continued to thrash his arms and legs. Jin Cho, who continued to hold on to Yu, could only keep them on the surface by kicking his flippers.

Even though they were both at the surface, Yu was grabbing at Jin Cho. Because Jin Cho could not use his regulator, he could only breath when his head was above the surface. Yu's struggle kept pulling him under the surface.

Tiring, Jin Cho eventually let go of Yu and he started yelling for help. He then noted that Yu no longer was on the surface but was under water.

Just as Jose and the three other divers reached the surface, one of them heard shouting. Jose told the three divers to remain where they were on the surface and he swam toward the location where the shouting was coming from.

Other people on the reef dived into the water and swam toward them.

Yu was brought to shore, taken out of the water, and CPR was performed, to no avail. An ambulance arrived and took him to the Commonwealth Health Center were he was pronounced dead.

Smith said Divers Paradise and Jose violated the Commonwealth's safety statute by failing to comply with PADI standards while conducting the open water dive.

Smith cited, among other alleged violations, failure to screen and evaluate Yu to ensure that he met the required prerequisite and possessed the knowledge and skill to undertake an open water dive at Lau Lau Bay.

Smith said PADI acted recklessly in disregard of its paying clients by allowing Jose to hold himself out as a PADI dive master authorized to conduct and instruct PADI dives when it knew or should have known he was not adhering to PADI standards.

Volunteer groups get 20K 'ready-to-eat meals'

»Most will be distributed to PSS students, families

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Federal Emergency Management Agency recently donated containers full of ready-to-eat meals, or MREs, for distribution to children and families in the Commonwealth.

NMI Salvation Army ministry leader Wayne Gillespie told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that FEMA donated over 20,000 MREs to Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster, a coalition of local non-government agencies and churches that are involved in disaster and social works.

Among these groups are the American Red Cross NMI Chapter, Karidat, and the Salvation Army.

Gillespie said the coalition has decided to distribute most of the ready-to-eat meals to public schools as they have lists of families who rely on the two free meals that their children get during the school year.

Acting associate commissioner for instruction and curriculum services Kimo Rosario said yesterday that PSS has received 4,000 MREs from the coalition, which will be distributed proportionately to all public schools, including the Head Start program. Meal distribution will be based on each school's population, according to him.

Bigger schools like Marianas High School and Hopwood Junior High School, he said, will get the bulk of the donated meals, which are now being offloaded at the PSS Pupil Transportation Office in Lower Base.

Rosario said school administrators will select recipients from their school and these students will start receiving the pre-packed foods next week.

He said PSS and the Education Board are extremely grateful to FEMA and the coalition for the food donation. He believes this is the first time for the system to receive this kind of donation.

Besides truckloads of ready-to-eat meals, FEMA has been providing other emergency needs of victims of calamities and disasters across the nation such as emergency generators, clothes, emergency medical supplies, and others.

$1.2M grant for Am. Samoa programs

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Office of Insular Affairs Director Nikolao I. Pula announced yesterday more than $1.2 million in technical assistance grants to support American Samoa programs in education, health, and conservation.

"These grants symbolize our commitment to the people of American Samoa and we are pleased to be supporting the efforts of leaders such as Dr. Jacinta Galea'i, Director of Health Elisapeta Ponausuia, and NPS Terrestrial Ecologist Tevita Togia to improve the quality of life for the youth of American Samoa. I wish to thank these individuals for their hard work and perseverance in their respective areas of responsibilities and for reaching out to the Office of Insular Affairs for assistance. The funding for these programs will provide quality opportunities and assist communities for years to come," said Pula.

The following grants were awarded yesterday:

■ American Samoa Department of Education—$739,453 Maintenance Assistance Program – Comprehensive Bus Safety Program. This will fund 6 months of in-stock inventory for bus maintenance and upgrades for existing buses. Further funding is for specialized training for bus drivers and bus certification for the mechanics who will be seeing to the upkeep of the buses.

■ American Samoa Department of Health—$312,600 Technical Assistance Program – Immunization Mobile Van. This will fund the lease of an immunization van in American Samoa for the period of January 2013 to December 2015. This has been a successful program for many years, and this funding will allow for the continuation of it. This will also fund the Flu-Uptake Initiative, which will provide a flu vaccine to the public with the van. It will also fund the Adolescent "Give it your Best Shot" Initiative, which teaches youth about the importance of immunization shots.

■ American Conservation Experience—$227,600 Technical Assistance Program – American Samoa Youth Program: Tamaligi and Red Seed Tree Eradication. This program is two-fold, in that it aims to hire American Samoa youth to assist in the removal of these types of trees; it will teach youth about job skills and expose them to resource management career paths, as well as eradicating these invasive species and reclaiming 2,000 acres of ecologically vulnerable rainforest. ***(OIA)***

Bordallo meets with new Joint Region Marianas chief

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) met Wednesday with Rear Adm. Tilghman D. Payne, USN, who will replace Rear Adm. Paul J. Bushong as commander for Joint Region Marianas and commander, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas. Payne currently serves as commander for Navy Region Midwest.

"I appreciated the opportunity to meet with Rear Admiral Tilghman Payne, who will serve as the new Navy Commander on Guam," said Bordallo. "Admiral Payne's many years of experience in the Navy as well as his experience in Navy Region Midwest will serve him well on Guam. It is important to maintain a positive relationship with military leaders on our island, and I look forward to working with Admiral Payne on issues important to our military and local communities. Guam has been blessed with a number of strong military leaders on island." ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) joins Rear Adm. Tilghman D. Payne, USN, who is replacing Rear Adm. Paul J. Bushong as commander for Joint Region Marianas and U.S Naval Forces Marianas.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Twelfth CNMI State Board of Education hereby gives notice that there will be a Regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, July 18, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. at the BOE Conference Room in Bwughos Street, Susupe, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. Preliminary
1) Call to Order
2) Roll Call
3) Adoption of Agenda
4) Adoption of Minutes
a) April 16, 2012 Regular Board Meeting
b) May 31, 2012 Special Board Meeting

II. Public Comments[1]

III. Reports
1) Chair
2) Board Committees
a) FPA
b) ISA
c) LIA
d) CIP
e) Student Services & Parental/Community Programs (SSPCP)
f) AD HOC
3) Commissioner of Education
i. Financial Matters
a. Federal
b. Local
ii. Head Start Program
iii. Other Matters

IV. Unfinished Business
1. Sick Leave Donation Policy Amendment
2. School Calendar for SY 2012-2013

V. New Business
1. CNMI Consolidated Grant for SY 2012-2013
2. Resolution for Bank Signatories

VI. Executive Session[2]
1) Legal Updates
2) Personnel
3) Other matters

VII. Miscellaneous Matters

VIII. Discussion of Agenda for next Board meeting

IX. Adjournment

[1] Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
[2] Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

'Only a few handling 3,200 probation and parole cases'

There is a total of 3,200 probation and parole cases in the CNMI being handled by only 14 case managers and 14 probation and parole officers, according to Adult Probation officer Jose P. Mafnas.

Mafnas noted that with each and every one of these cases, they must consider three key factors during supervision of offenders—public safety, rehabilitation, and legal reporting.

"However, although we are few in number, we have managed to collect at least $200,000 in revenue in fiscal year 2011 alone," said Mafnas in his remarks during Thursday's proclamation signing declaring July 15 to 21 as Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week.

He said the theme of the 12th Annual Probation, Parole and Community Supervision is "yesterday, today, tomorrow," which commemorates the "dynamic nature of our work and reiterates the CNMI community supervision departments' commitment to serving the people."

In signing the proclamation, acting governor Eloy Inos urged community corrections professionals to continue doing their best in serving the Commonwealth.

"I salute you all!" Inos said.

CNMI Supreme Court associate justice Alexandro Castro said the economic condition in the CNMI has made the job of law enforcement more difficult.

"Insufficient manpower in both probation and parole to properly monitor and supervise probationers/parolees on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota is a fact and not a fiction," said Castro in his speech during the proclamation signing held in the Supreme Court.

To assist probation and parole officers so that they can focus their energy on the most serious cases such as sexual abuse and violent offenders, Castro suggested enlisting the aid of community volunteers.

Castro said he will soon be asking chief probation officer Ursula I. Lifoifoi Aldan to identify persons whom she believes can be "eyes of the court."

These volunteers, he said, will look after probationers that are convicted of non-violent offenses.

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja said that correction officers are entrusted to increase public safety, provide support for victims, facilitate positive change in offenders' behaviors, and provide for the fair administration of justice.

"Although their numbers are few and resources are limited, these revered officers take great pride in their work and handle their duties with the utmost dignity, which continues to promote our justice system and our well-being," Naraja said. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Superior Court presiding judge Robert Naraja and Supreme Court acting chief justice Alexandro Castro watch as acting governor Eloy Inos signs a proclamation declaring July 15 to 21 as Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week at the Supreme Court on Thursday.

See more photos on Page 12

CANNIBALS

From Page 1

ers and literally become bullet-proof, he said.

"It's prevalent cult activity," Wagambie said. He said he believes there could be between 700 and 1,000 cult members in several villages in Papua New Guinea's remote northeast interior. All of them might have eaten human flesh, he said.

According to the report in *The National*, which is published in Papua New Guinea, 28 men and women appeared in a Madang court on Tuesday. Wagambie said they were charged with willful murder.

It was not clear what happened to the 29th suspect. Murder is punishable by death in Papua New Guinea, a poor South Pacific island nation.

Wagambie said the suspects were not required to plea to the murder charges and were being held in custody.

Police will gather more witness statements before pressing charges related to the cannibalism allegations, he said.

Cannibalism was part of traditional culture in Papua New Guinea, where human flesh was known as "long pig," and survived in isolated pockets into the latter part of the 20th century while the country was under Australian colonial rule.

Wagambie, 36, said he had never heard of a previous case of cannibalism in his lifetime.

He expected police would make around 100 arrests over the weekend for cult-related crimes.

Four of the seven victims were murdered last week, Wagambie said, adding that no remains had been recovered.

"They're probably all eaten up," he said.

WAGE

From Page 1

Sept. 30 this year, and every year thereafter until it reaches the federal wage floor of $7.25 an hour. The yearly wage increase law was signed in 2007.

Sablan said yesterday that he will not propose another postponement of the 50-cent increase for 2012.

"Workers are counting on that 50-cent increase on Sept. 30; and they already had to skip 2011. So I will not propose another postponement," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* in an e-mail interview.

He said when he obtained the one-year postponement for 2011 in Public Law 111-224, "it was with the understanding and agreement of HANMI and the Saipan Chamber that the increase would go forward in 2012."

"So businesses have included it in their planning," Sablan said.

Bhola Paul, an employee at Pacific Islands Club, said another 50-cent minimum wage increase will be a big help to employees, especially because of steep prices of goods and services on the islands.

Paul said he's earning more than the current minimum wage of $5.05 an hour but his employer also raises the salaries of supervisors by at least 20 cents every time there's a scheduled minimum wage hike.

"I thank my employer for that," Paul, from Bangladesh, said in an interview at the U.S. Post Office in Chalan Kanoa yesterday. Paul came to Saipan 16 years ago to work at a garment factory but when factories started closing one after the other, he started working as a waiter and now as a food and beverage supervisor.

Paul said when the hotel gets busy, employees get to earn overtime pay because of the extra hours needed to be at the hotel.

"But I am happy just to still have a job, with or without increase because the economy is bad. I make it a point to save," he added.

Douglas Brennan, president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, separately said yesterday that it is "politically impossible to effectuate any changes in the [minimum wage] law this year."

He, however, said the Chamber will request for a delay in the scheduled increase for 2013.

"SCC would request for a delay in any further minimum wage rate increases, after the September adjustment, to consider implementing special wage committees administered by the U.S. Department of Labor," said Brennan, general manager of Microl Corp.

Sablan said he would be open to a delay in the minimum wage increase in 2013, but it would completely depend on the economic information he gets next year.

"Is the economy improving, as the recent upward revision of the CNMI revenue estimate indicates? Have employers been able to incorporate the 2012 minimum wage increase without reducing employment or raising prices? I will be listening to business people and workers and looking at the data the federal government and the CNMI collect and I will base any decision on all those factors," he said.

Brennan said he expects to see "even more work hour reductions in the workforce as well as the closure of additional businesses" with the September minimum wage increase.

"True, some employees will be better off as a result…those that get to keep their jobs. Others won't be so fortunate. Of course that will translate into less revenue to the CNMI government," he said.

Sablan, for his part, said, "HANMI and the Saipan Chamber told me they could live with it," referring to the September increase.

"And I know that workers need it to keep up with the cost of CUC [Commonwealth Utilities Corp.] and gas and food. So we are going to stick with the agreement," Sablan said.

Brennan said the postponement of the 2011 increase allowed more businesses to remain operational and allowed many people to keep their jobs, even with reduced work hours.

"We are all on a tight budget right now with high utility costs, increased fuel costs, new labor costs associated with the change in accessing foreign national labor, etc. The increase in labor costs will most affect those businesses that are labor intensive. Hotels, construction companies, and smaller retail operations will feel the next increase the most," he said.

'Political'

Brennan said the Saipan Chamber of Commerce believes that "purely political minimum wage increases are exactly that—purely political."

"Minimum wage assessment should be directly related to economic conditions. The elimination of the 2011 minimum wage increase only delayed the inevitable. Until the CNMI economy is healthy enough to support additional increases in the cost of doing business, all measures should be taken to make sure no additional burden is placed on businesses that provide jobs in the CNMI," he said. "Businesses really don't need another government-imposed increase in the cost of doing business at this point in time."

"We've had enough economic reports that accurately represent what will happen to the CNMI economy if wages continue to rise during our prolonged recession," he added.

Brennan is also the secretary of the Commonwealth Auto Dealers Association.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce believes, as does American Samoa Gov. Togiola T.A. Tulafono, that "irreparable harm has been done to our economies as a direct result of mandatory, federally decreed minimum wage increases that have destroyed our respective industries; tuna canneries and garment factories," Brennan said.

"SCC believes, as does Governor Tulafono and Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular Areas Anthony M. Babauta, that U.S. Department of Labor-appointed special industry committees are a more prudent approach to establishing minimum wage rates based on purely economic factors, that are not harmful to existing business activity and future investment," he added.

Doty Santos, a teacher at Kagman Elementary School, said any salary increase would help many of the employees in the CNMI but said employers should also ensure there's "fairness."

"If only those who are earning minimum wage will get the regular increase but not those who are earning above minimum wage, that will create an unfair environment. In a restaurant, for example, if a minimum wage waiter gets to earn more than the chef, that will be unfair," said Santos, who also used to work in the private sector.

Impact report

Sablan said the economic effects of raising the minimum wage are complicated and have to be watched carefully.

"That's why Congress requires the Government Accountability Office to report every two years on the impact of the minimum wage increases on the CNMI economy," he said.

GAO is the investigative arm of the U.S. Congress.

The next GAO report is due in 2013.

Sablan said he will be listening to GAO to also hear if they have any new insights beyond what was reported in 2011 that might affect what the CNMI does next year.

In its June 23, 2011 report, GAO said that numerous factors, including the minimum wage increases, were at work in the CNMI economy. But the minimum wage could not be singled out as causing a loss of businesses or jobs, Sablan said.

"In fact, the County Business Pattern report for 2010 that the U.S. Census Bureau recently released showed an increase in both jobs and wages in the Northern Marianas between 2009 and 2010. This included a minimum wage increase. The information is a little old, but it shows increasing wages does not necessarily mean fewer jobs employment. Quite the opposite, when wages went up, employment went up," the delegate said.

Sablan also said the County Business Pattern data may show the impact of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act which, between 2009 and 2010, contributed millions of dollars to the CNMI economy and was credited by local officials with preserving or creating hundreds of jobs. So the Recovery Act may have increased demand for labor in that period and helped push up wages, he said.

Am. Samoa lawsuit seeks automatic US citizenship

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa (AP)—A group of five people have filed a federal lawsuit arguing they should be U.S. citizens by virtue of being born in American Samoa, the only U.S. territory that doesn't grant that birthright.

The lawsuit filed this week in Washington, D.C., challenges the constitutionality of federal laws that make those born in American Samoa U.S. nationals but not citizens like those born in other territories.

In Puerto Rico, territorial status grants residents U.S. citizenship, but they pay no federal income taxes and cannot vote in presidential elections. Their congressional representative also cannot vote in Congress.

Those born in American Samoa are considered nationals, who also don't pay federal income taxes and can't vote for president. Nationals must follow the same procedures for naturalization as those who are permanent legal residents, which includes taking tests on English proficiency and American civics, even though English is widely spoken in American Samoa and public schools teach U.S. history.

"If we are American Samoans, then why not citizens? I believe American Samoans deserve the same right and benefits as all other Americans," said lead plaintiff Leneuoti Tuaua.

Tuaua wanted to pursue a law enforcement career in California but couldn't because of his status as a U.S. national, according to the complaint. He and fellow plaintiffs Fanuatanu Mamea and Emy Afalava live in the territory. Plaintiff Vaaleama Fosi lives in Honolulu, while Taffy-Lei Maene lives in Seattle.

Statutes have been passed in other territories defining them as part of the United States and entitling people born there to U.S. citizenship. But not everyone in American Samoa wants that, explained Margaret Stock, an immigration attorney in Alaska who often handles cases involving American Samoa nationals.

Being a citizen at birth would mean all of the U.S. Constitution applies, which would prevent certain communal land ownership rules unique to American Samoa, such as favoring those with Samoan blood, Stock said.

"This has been a big debate in American Samoa for a long time," she said.

Home to 56,000 people, American Samoa is also a place that holds tight to its culture and heritage.

The territory's nonvoting delegate in Congress, Eni Faleomavaega, said Thursday he doesn't think citizenship should be forced on those born in American Samoa.

"The future of our territory is being threatened by outside forces, and we must unite in our opposition to this lawsuit," he said. "I firmly believe the future of American Samoa should be decided by the people living in the territory, not by a court 7,000 miles away," he said.

For those who do want citizenship, he introduced a bill earlier this year to make it easier for those living in the territory to do so. The bill, which is pending, would allow applying for naturalization directly from American Samoa.

Currently, people born in American Samoa must leave the territory and live in a state for at least three months to apply for naturalization. Many say the hassle and expense of the process prevents them from pursuing citizenship.

Citizenship should be determined by the flag under which someone is born, said Charles Alailima, one of the attorneys representing the group. "The plaintiffs here should not have to ask to be United States citizens."

A U.S. passport issued to those born in American Samoa notes the bearer is a national and not a citizen.

"Among other things, many federal, state and municipal laws require that a person be a U.S. citizen in order to enjoy certain civil, political and economic liberties, such as the right to vote, serve on a jury, bear arms and hold certain forms of public sector employment," the lawsuit argues.

"Recognition by the United States that all persons born in American Samoa are U.S. citizens would significantly advance the Samoan Federation's efforts to increase the political voice of the Samoan community," by allowing them to vote for president, said the Carson, Calif., nonprofit group, which is also named as a plaintiff.

SUPPORT THE TROOPS WEEK
Hopwood Junior High School students show their appreciation for troops with their Support The Troops banner.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Marine from Micronesia wraps up second Afghan tour

By CPL. KENNETH JASIK
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

FORWARD OPERATING BASE ZEEBRUGEE, Kajaki District, Afghanistan—Marines seem to come from all walks of life, some more distant than others. For one Marine, growing up in Micronesia was his childhood.

Corporal Jordi Inoke, a radio operator with 1st Battalion, 8th Marines, Regimental Combat Team 6, says he's proud to be in Afghanistan, on his second deployment and supporting International Security Assistance Forces.

"I like deploying to Afghanistan," said Inoke. "I feel like we're doing good work, and we are truly earning our paychecks out here."

Inoke grew up on Pohnpei, an island in the Federated States of Micronesia. "I grew up with my grandparents, and we had a big family," said Inoke. "When I was a kid, I did what kids do: play and go to school." Inoke's life on the small island gives him a different experience than most Marines, having to share almost everything he had with his family.

CPL. KENNETH JASIK
Corporal Jordi Inoke, radio operator, 1st Battalion, 8th Marines, Regimental Combat Team 6, programs a radio near the Kajaki Dam, in Helmand Province Afghanistan, July 1, 2012. Inoke, 24, from Pohnpei Island, Micronesia, joined the Marine Corps shortly after his brother joined, and is near the end of his second deployment to Afghanistan.

"He brings a colorful environment with his different background," Cpl. William N. Niven, a radio technician with 1st Bn., 8th Marines. "He gets to tell us about the island. I like hearing about where he's from, because he has a unique back story. Everyone on the island knows one another, and it's a different type of community."

"On the island it's just small towns, and wherever you are going, you can walk," said Inoke. "If you're walking to a place, someone will probably stop by and ask you if you need a ride and take you wherever you need to go. The people there are really kind."

Growing up, Inoke only knew about the Army, Air Force, and Navy. "I didn't know about the Marine Corps until I met my recruiter," said Inoke. "My brother joined the Marine Corps about six months before me. Only after I spoke to the recruiter, I understood what it was."

Inoke's brother's enlistment is what inspired him to join. Inoke originally only wanted to stay in for one enlistment, but says he now plans on continuing his Marine Corps career.

"My brother and I planned on joining the Marine Corps for four years then going back to school," said Inoke. "I just put in my reenlistment package. I'm going to try for another four years."

When he got to Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego in March 2009, Inoke didn't fully understand what he had got himself into.

"I was excited," said Inoke, "I thought 'man, this is going to be fun.' I got off the plane, and I asked what's going on to the drill instructor at the airport. Well, after that I was like, 'what did I get myself into?'" It was harder for Inoke adjusting to military life because he knew very little English.

"When I got to boot camp, my English was not too good," said Inoke. "While I've been in the fleet, it has gotten a lot better." As he worked on his English, Inoke trained to become a radio operator.

"It's good to work with him," said Niven, 22, from Montgomery, Texas. "He does his job real well. He doesn't speak perfect English, but he didn't know much at all when he went to boot camp three years ago. Now you can hold a perfect conversation with him."

Inoke has deployed twice to Afghanistan, his first was with Regimental Combat Team 2, in 2010. He is preparing to return to Camp Lejeune soon.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXII, Issue No. 166

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

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EDITORIAL

Fashion error: Misadventures in camouflage

Ever notice how many people you see wearing camouflage apparel in public? Well, maybe not. Wearing camouflage, they're invisible, right?

Not always because no one has designed a pattern that blends into the background at a mall food court or a Little League baseball game. So those woodland and desert patterns tend to make the wearer more conspicuous, not less.

Unless you're hunting deer or ducks, that's often the point. Camouflage has found its way into all sorts of products where its practical utility is, well, hard to see. You can buy camouflage toilet seats, beer koozies, shower curtains and wallets.

You can even buy Mossy Oak underwear, which theoretically would help conceal something that is not supposed to be visible in the first place. The trend extends as far as racy lingerie. The camouflage strapless corset and thong at Lingerie Diva (lingeriediva.com/camo-lingerie/camouflage-strapless-corset-thong) is probably a big Valentine's Day item in some places.

Camo used to be strictly a functional feature, but at some point it became a fashion statement—advertising that the wearer is rugged, outdoorsy or rural, if not all three. Plenty of hunters still don it to achieve stealth in a blind, but most of them don't feel out of place wearing it in town after the season is over. Urban hipsters have been known to sport it in a spirit of subversive irony.

But there are people who wear it every day for the most practical of all reasons: to keep from getting killed. No one has a bigger appetite for clothing that makes one hard to detect than the U.S. military.

But that doesn't mean soldiers are necessarily good at the design decisions. Reports a story in the online magazine Slate, "There's a lot of brown in Afghanistan, says one aggrieved soldier, but the U.S. Army's camo print contains not a speck." This, nearly 11 years after American fighting men and women arrived en masse.

The pattern that made its appearance in 2004, a gray and green pixelated one known as the Universal Camouflage Pattern, turns out to be OK unless you want to escape the notice of armed hostiles. As the online newspaper The Daily reports, "The government spent $5 billion on a camouflage design that actually made its soldiers more visible." Now it's in the process of replacing this unfortunate wardrobe.

How could the Army make such a major mistake? It seems the Marine Corps came out with a spiffy new line of brown camouflage, which made Army officers envious. So they copied it, but in their preferred gray tones—which didn't work well in the field.

Said Eric Graves of the publication Soldier Systems Daily, "That's what this really comes down to: 'We can't allow the Marine Corps to look more cool than the Army.'"

We've all made that sort of fashion mistake—buying a garment that makes us look ill-attired because someone else looks good in it. When it doesn't work out, it's no fun at all. In fact, it's enough to make you wish you could hide.

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Stop bullying the 'soft' sciences

By TIMOTHY D. WILSON
Los Angeles Times

Timothy D. Wilson is a professor of psychology at the University of Virginia and the author of Redirect: The Surprising New Science of Psychological Change. *He wrote this for the* Los Angeles Times.

Once, during a meeting at my university, a biologist mentioned that he was the only faculty member present from a science department. When I corrected him, noting that I was from the Department of Psychology, he waved his hand dismissively, as if I were a Little Leaguer telling a member of the New York Yankees that I too played baseball.

There has long been snobbery in the sciences, with the "hard" ones (physics, chemistry, biology) considering themselves to be more legitimate than the "soft" ones (psychology, sociology). It is thus no surprise that many members of the general public feel the same way. But of late, skepticism about the rigors of social science has reached absurd heights.

The U.S. House of Representatives recently voted to eliminate funding for political science research through the National Science Foundation. In the wake of that action, an opinion writer for the Washington Post suggested that the House didn't go far enough. The NSF should not fund any research in the social sciences, wrote Charles Lane, because "unlike hypotheses in the hard sciences, hypotheses about society usually can't be proven or disproven by experimentation."

Lane's comments echoed ones by Gary Gutting in the Opinionator blog of the New York Times. "While the physical sciences produce many detailed and precise predictions," wrote Gutting, "the social sciences do not. The reason is that such predictions almost always require randomized controlled experiments, which are seldom possible when people are involved."

This is news to me and the many other social scientists who have spent their careers doing carefully controlled experiments on human behavior, inside and outside the laboratory. What makes the criticism so galling is that those who voice it, or members of their families, have undoubtedly benefited from research in the disciplines they dismiss.

Most of us know someone who has suffered from depression and sought psychotherapy. He or she probably benefited from therapies such as cognitive behavioral therapy that have been shown to work in randomized clinical trials.

Problems such as child abuse and teenage pregnancy take a huge toll on society. Interventions developed by research psychologists, tested with the experimental method, have been found to lower the incidence of child abuse and reduce the rate of teenage pregnancies.

Ever hear of stereotype threat? It is the double jeopardy that people face when they are at risk of confirming a negative stereotype of their group. When African American students take a difficult test, for example, they are concerned not only about how well they will do but also about the possibility that performing poorly will reflect badly on their entire group. This added worry has been shown time and again, in carefully controlled experiments, to lower academic performance. But fortunately, experiments have also showed promising ways to reduce this threat. One intervention, for example, conducted in a middle school, reduced the achievement gap by 40 percent.

If you know someone who was unlucky enough to be arrested for a crime he didn't commit, he may have benefited from social psychological experiments that have resulted in fairer lineups and interrogations, making it less likely that innocent people are convicted.

An often-overlooked advantage of the experimental method is that it can demonstrate what doesn't work. Consider three popular programs that research psychologists have debunked: Critical Incident Stress Debriefing, used to prevent post-traumatic stress disorders in first responders and others who have witnessed horrific events; the D.A.R.E. anti-drug program, used in many schools throughout America; and Scared Straight programs designed to prevent at-risk teens from engaging in criminal behavior.

All three of these programs have been shown, with well-designed experimental studies, to be ineffective or, in some cases, to make matters worse. And as a result, the programs have become less popular or have changed their methods. By discovering what doesn't work, social scientists have saved the public billions of dollars.

To be fair to the critics, social scientists have not always taken advantage of the experimental method as much as they could. Too often, for example, educational programs have been implemented widely without being adequately tested. But increasingly, educational researchers are employing better methodologies. For example, in a recent study, researchers randomly assigned teachers to a program called My Teaching Partner, which is designed to improve teaching skills, or to a control group. Students taught by the teachers who participated in the program did significantly better on achievement tests than did students taught by teachers in the control group.

Are the social sciences perfect? Of course not. Human behavior is complex, and it is not possible to conduct experiments to test all aspects of what people do or why. There are entire disciplines devoted to the experimental study of human behavior, however, in tightly controlled, ethically acceptable ways. Many people benefit from the results, including those who, in their ignorance, believe that science is limited to the study of molecules.

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The narrowness of the Olympic ideal

By CHRISTOPHER AMES
The Baltimore Sun

Christopher Ames is special assistant to the president and professor of English at Washington College in Chestertown, Md. His email is cames2@washcoll.edu. He wrote this for the Baltimore Sun.

Looking ahead to the Olympics this month, Adam Gopnik cleverly writes in The New Yorker that "Americans become passionate about athletes we have never heard of participating in games we do not follow trying to please judges we cannot see according to rules we do not know."

Mr. Gopnik sees this fascination bred by nationalism. But within American culture, we should also be attuned to the narratives of individual excellence that dominate coverage of the Olympics. These narratives extol the virtue of single-minded dedication to specialization and narrowly defined excellence.

The heroism of athletes unfolds in stories presented to us by the press. These stories stress the years of intense training and the mental and physical discipline necessary to become, however briefly, the best in the world at some specific sport—whether it be beach volleyball, discus hurling or synchronized swimming. The stories are indeed compelling, but are they useful exemplars of social and educational values? That is, do the trials of Olympic athletes provide lessons for us all about discipline, dedication and success? Do they offer insight into contemporary debates about education?

I would suggest the answer is "no." While I admire as much as anyone the skill and grace on display when watching the world's best compete, I feel queasy about the individual stories that tell of athletes being singled out for specialized sports at a very early age, training to an extent that often denies them an ordinary childhood and adolescence, and pushing their bodies to dangerous lengths. Increasingly, we see sports dominated by extreme physical specimens, from tiny gymnasts to giant basketball centers. Doping scandals throughout the sporting world are a predictable outgrowth of the extremely steep pyramid of athletic competition and the outsized rewards for scaling that pyramid.

Most of us will never receive an Olympic medal or even reach the distinction of being one of the most celebrated individuals in our chosen area of endeavor. We will, however, strive to lead rich and rewarding lives. In the professional world, we are likely to find ourselves in roles that require a wide range of skills, not a narrow area of excellence. Engineers discover they need writing and presentation skills; writers discover they need fluency in information technology.

We may also find ourselves thriving in job challenges at age 40 that we couldn't have imagined at age 20. Fans may well worry what fate awaits these extraordinary athletes when they outgrow the brief window of being competitive. For most of us, our success and satisfaction may rely more on being able to do lots of things reasonably well than on being an extraordinary talent in a very narrow area. This dynamic is even more applicable outside of work, where successful relationships with friends and family and avocational pursuits are the keys to happiness and satisfaction.

We once called Olympic athletes "amateurs," meaning they pursued their sports out of love rather than for financial compensation. Though Olympic athletes are surely passionate about their sports, they haven't been amateurs for a long time. Yet for most people, amateur pursuits enrich their lives in countless ways, whether it is playing piano or community softball, or acting in community theater. Those skills are nourished in private lessons and in formal schooling. Creative writing or drama classes should not be judged solely by the number of published writers or career actors they produce but rather by the many ways in which they enrich people's lives.

My uneasiness about the Olympic paradigm is the corollary to a plea for the virtues of well-roundedness, for breadth of knowledge and experience—for what, in academia, we call liberal learning. Philosophy classes are not just for budding philosophers, nor are biology classes just meant for future doctors.

This year's Olympic Games come at a time when demands that education be more strictly job oriented have intensified. The word that connects these two areas is "training." For those amazingly skilled Olympic hopefuls, training is indeed the right model for reaching their goals. But for most prospective productive and engaged citizens, training is not a substitute for genuine education. A full life involves gaining knowledge and competency in a variety of subjects, not just in areas where we are most talented.

It takes nothing away from the achievements of Olympic athletes to see them as exceptions rather than rules. Let's celebrate their distinctive accomplishments while remembering that their unique stories are not necessarily paradigms for the rest of us.

Balance is fine, but so is working like mad

By CATHY YOUNG
Newsday

Cathy Young is a regular contributor to Reason *magazine and the website RealClearPolitics. This was written for* Newsday.

"Balance" is the watchword in the perennial debate on whether women can "have it all." Let's have more women in power, the argument goes, and they can remake society in a way that lets both women and men have more flexible lives incorporating work and family.

But not so fast. "Balance" is not for everyone, and expecting women in particular to be its champions is just another form of sexism.

There is a common notion that the exorbitant career investment expected as the price of success is merely an artificial consequence of patriarchy. In a more egalitarian world, we're told, you would have enough time to be a chief executive, Nobel Prize-winning scientist or top-level policymaker, and still attend your children's soccer games.

True, in some workplaces, people who don't put in long hours are unfairly penalized even if they are as productive as their more work-focused colleagues. Likewise, women (and, even more so, men) who spend a year or two as full-time parents may be penalized simply for appearing to be insufficiently career-oriented.

But let's face it: some types of work really do require intense commitment. In modern science, taking even a couple of years off can easily cause you to fall behind the most current research. In a competitive business environment, spotting and seizing an opportunity at the right moment can make all the difference. A high-level career in foreign policy requires being on hand to respond to a crisis abroad—and sometimes (gasp!) to give it a higher priority than a crisis at home.

This isn't to say that the only way to have a career is to be a workaholic. Anne Marie Slaughter, who brought all this to a head recently with an essay in the Atlantic Monthly, has had a productive work life as an academic and writer even after leaving her State Department job, in part for more family time. For many women and men alike, low-pressure jobs are not only more family-friendly but more fulfilling.

But is that the only way? In many work/life discussions, there is an implicit assumption that strong commitment to work is practically self-imposed slavery—or, at least, a poor choice one is likely to regret. (Last year's Margaret Thatcher biopic "The Iron Lady" suggests, evidence-free, that Britain's former prime minister has been haunted by such regrets in old age.) After former General Electric CEO Jack Welch raised hackles at a meeting of female executives by stating that women need to "over-deliver" and forget "balance" if they want top jobs, some commentators took him to task for ignoring the real problem: men's willingness to rob themselves of a full life in pursuit of top jobs.

Yet there are people, of both sexes, for whom "work vs. life" is a false choice because work is their life—and they find such a life meaningful.

Can the workplace be restructured to make it easier to combine work and family? Yes, and we have made major strides in that direction. But someone who gives nearly all of his or her time and energy to work will, all else being equal, achieve more at work than someone who gives much less. The only way to prevent such "unfair" competition would be to keep "workaholics" from working as much as they want.

Perhaps the answer is not more balance for everyone, but more respect for diversity. Here's a radical thought: Women, like men, should be able to leave most hands-on child care to a spouse (or a grandparent, or even a nanny) without being stigmatized or guilt-tripped.

Of course that's not what all women want—but for some, such arrangements can look an awful lot like having it all.

Why Turks are reluctant to take the lead against Syria

By MARYAM HASAN
THE INSTITUTE FOR WAR & PEACE REPORTING

ISTAMBUL, Turkey—One might have thought that the downing of one of its aircraft by Syrian fighter jets would have been enough to provoke military action by Turkey.

And yet, Ankara, while angry, has remained remarkably non-confrontational following the latest incident. Indeed, while Turks have allowed arms to transit through their country to support members of the Free Syrian Army, Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan has ruled out the possibility of war.

In that, he is reflecting the general feeling of most Turks, who are extremely wary of the prospect of conflict with their southern neighbor.

Older people remember the 1974 conflict with Greece over Cyprus and shudder; the younger generation is in shock at the prospect of conflict.

"We were such close friends (with Syria)—what happened all of a sudden?" asked Asife Ulu, a 26-year-old business manager in Istanbul.

Arzu Efeoglu, a 23-year-old university student in the same city, said, "I don't see how a war would help the Turks. It would cost many lives. Syria is not our problem.

"Turkey is not a fully mature democracy. We still have lots of problems to fix here before fighting for democracy elsewhere." Varol, a 51-year-old retired businessman, hopes that normal relations with Damascus can be restored.

"We need to sit down at the table with the Syrian government in the presence of a mediator and sort out our differences," he said.

According to Abdulhamit Bilici, a senior journalist and columnist with the Zaman newspaper, such responses are typical and reflect a failure to grasp the scale of the crisis unfolding in Syria.

"It is very difficult to persuade Turks in favor of war with Syria. They can't understand how we've become enemies after enjoying very good relations over the last few years," he said.

Turkey has the second largest military force in NATO after the United States. That, and its proximity to Syria, leads many to believe that Turkey would be expected to spearhead any military intervention.

"America is pushing Turkey to fight with Syria, which the West won't do itself because of elections and the economy. They worry about their losses, while ours would come cheaper for them," Tayfun Coskun, a 33-year old photographer, said.

The mood of extreme caution is not confined to the public—many analysts are resolutely opposed to military engagement.

For example, Abdullah Bozkurt, a prominent analyst, says, "Turkey may have suffered a blow to its prestige as Assad is still hanging onto power after a 15-month-long uprising, leaving Turks with a sense of defeat and humiliation. But I think we can live with that, if it means saving the lives of Turkish soldiers." A few, however, take a more hawkish view.

Vehbi Bisan, a professor at Istanbul University, said many people, while against the idea of a war, would like their country to stand up for itself, after the loss of face caused by the plane downing.

"Turks see their country as weak, which contradicts their sense of strength. Any further provocation by Syria will see a strong reaction from the public as well as from the military," he said.

And Syrians who have fled to Turkey from their homeland are desperate for Ankara to act.

Omar Ibrahim, a Syrian refugee from Homs, says Turkey's apparent torpor has only encouraged Damascus to take a more aggressive stance towards it.

"The lack of either a military or a diplomatic response when Assad troops attacked a refugee camp [in April 2012] emboldened Syria to shoot down the Turkish fighter jet," he said.

Maryam Hasan is a Syrian journalist who writes for The Institute for War & Peace Reporting, a nonprofit organization that trains journalists in areas of conflict.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds around 10 mph in the afternoon.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88 ° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

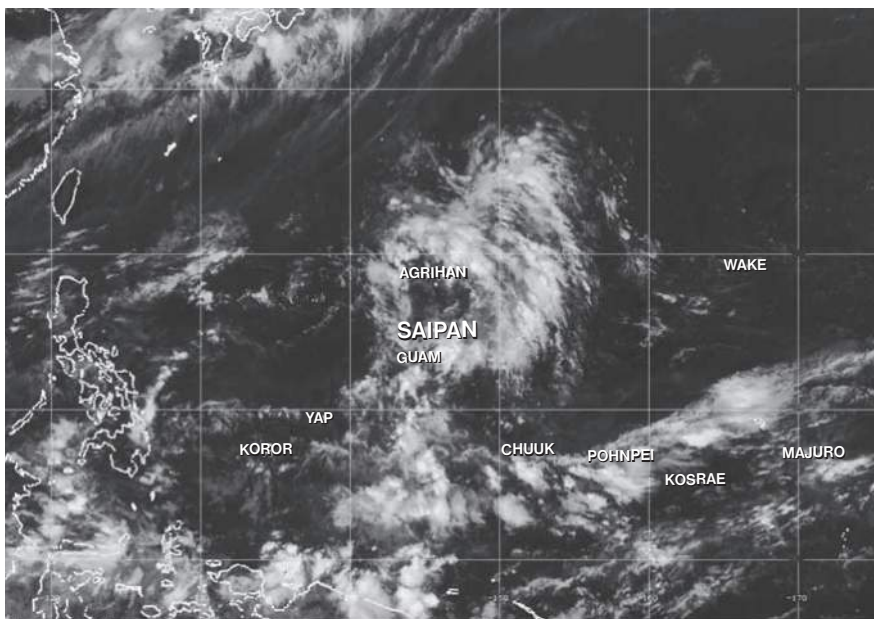
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼80
Palau	Showers	▲83	▼75
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲89	▼76
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼76
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼76
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲59	▼57
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼68
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲90	▼84
Honolulu	Showers	▲83	▼74
London	Showers	▲65	▼53
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲83	▼64
Manila	Thundershowers	▲89	▼79
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲58	▼42
Miami	Thundershowers	▲87	▼79
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲86	▼75
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲87	▼77
Paris	Showers	▲64	▼52
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲80	▼73
Rome	Sunny	▲91	▼70
Salem	Sunny	▲88	▼59
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼53
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲80	▼70
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼76
Washington, DC	Showers	▲88	▼74

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, FRIDAY, JULY 13, 2012
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough curves northward from 10N143E to near Pagan in the northern CNMI through a weak circulation centered at 21N143E to end at 25N140E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring over the Mariana Islands, Iwo To Island and Minami Tori Shima or north of a line from 8N142E to 16N155E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over a large area of Micronesia within 175 miles of a line from 5N142E to 5N156E to 11N168E. This area includes Yap Chuuk and Pohnpei states. Kwajalein lies just south of this area. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are present south of Majuro between 2N and 6N from 170E to the date line.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

3:50 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
11:38 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
6:55 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
11:19 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:54 AM	6:51 PM
Sunday	5:55 AM	6:51 PM
Monday	5:55 AM	6:51 PM
Tuesday	5:55 AM	6:51 PM
Wednesday	5:56 AM	6:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	1:36 AM	2:44 PM
Sunday	2:21 AM	3:34 PM
Monday	3:09 AM	4:24 PM
Tuesday	3:59 AM	5:13 PM
Wednesday	4:51 AM	6:00 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 7, 2012

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 3, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5074	11:30am	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5062	3:40am	5:40am	1, 3, 5 via SPN

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)

UA5062	3:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5062	2:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5 via ROP
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
OZ704/603	11:40pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA180/5071	10:35pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

CATHOLIC

Mt. Carmel Cathedral
Sunday Mass: 6am Chamorro, 9am English, 11am Filipino and 6pm English
Monday-Saturday: 6am Chamorro
Wednesday: 6pm Chamorro
Parish office hours:
Monday-Saturday
8am-12pm, 12-1pm, 1-5pm

Korean Center
Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

Kristo Rai Parish
Sunday- Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm (PH Novena 5:45pm)
Friday: 5:30pm praying of Divine Mercy Chaplet; 6pm devotional mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
Saturday: 6am and 6pm (anticipated)
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am 6pm Tagalog mass
Parish office hours: (Fr. Celso G. Magbanua) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 8-11:30am/ 3-5:30pm, Wednesday and Friday 3-5pm.
Telephone no. 285-0273

Santa Soledad Mission Parish
Monday: 6pm
Tuesday: 6pm
Wednesday: 6pm
Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm (Youth mass/ anticipated Sunday mass)
Sunday: 7am and 9am (Children's mass)
Parish office hours: Wednesday and Friday: 8-10am,
Saturday: 4-6pm
Telephone no. 256-4568

Saint Jude Parish
Monday- Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 7am
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Parish office hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-11:30am, 3:30-5pm
Office is close every Thursday and Saturday
Telephone no. 288-0007

San Antonio Parish
Monday-Friday 6pm
Saturday: 6pm
Sunday: 7am, 9am (Blessing of children)
Parish office hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 8-11:30am, 2-4:45pm
Close on Sunday and Monday

San Francisco de Borja-Rota
Sunday: 6am Chamorro, 8am English
Monday and Tuesday:6am Chamorro
Wednesday:6pm English
Thursday: 6am Chamorro
Friday: 6am English
Saturday: 6am Chamorro, 6pm Tagalog
Sunday: anticipated mass

San Isidro-Rota
Sunday: 5am, 8am, 10am
Monday-Friday: 7pm
Saturday: 5am and 7pm

San Jose (Oleai) Parish
Monday- Saturday: 6am daily mass
Monday- Sunday: 3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
Wednesday: 6pm, mass, exposition of the blessed sacrament
Saturday: 6pm, anticipated Sunday mass
Sunday: 7:30-9am English, 6pm Tagalog mass
Office hours: Monday-Wednesday: 9am-12pm, 2-5pm
Thursday: day off
Friday- Saturday: 8am-12pm, 2-5pm
Telephone no. 234-6991

San Roque Parish
Sunday: 7:30am Chamorro, 9am English
Monday: 6pm English
Tuesday: 6pm English
Wednesday: 6pm English- novena mass to our Lady of San Roque oil
Thursday: 6pm English
Friday: 6pm English- Devotion to the sacred heart of Jesus (First Fridays)
Saturday: 6am English- Our Lady's Saturday mass for the intentions of the Men and Women in military service, 6pm English- anticipated mass
Parish office hours: daily except Thursday and Sundays: 4:30-6pm
Telephone no. 322-2404, Fr. Bong's cell: 285-912, Diocesan Finance office: 234-3000 ext.143

San Vicente Parish
Monday-Friday: 6pm,
Saturday: 6pm (First Saturday of every month)
Sunday: 6am anticipated mass, 6pm (Neo Catechumenal community mass), 8pm
Sunday: 6am, 9am, 6pm
Parish office hours: daily 9-11am
Telephone no. 235-8208 or 287-0131

Santa Remedios
Sunday: 8am
Monday: 6pm (1st Mondays cemetery masses at 5:30pm)
Tuesday- Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm-anticipated Sunday mass 8-10pm
Parish office hours: Monday- Friday: 8:30am-12pm

PROTESTANT

Amen Church
Sunday : 10am, 1pm, 5pm Wednesday : 7pm Friday Prayer : 9pm Bible Study : 4pm (Tue) Music Practice : 5pm (Sat) Korean class: 3:30pm (Thu) Visitation : 10am(Fri, Sat) Outreach : 8am (First Sat) Tel. No. 285-2121, 256-2221 Email : oseyo@daum.net

Born Again Christian
(Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm
Telephone no. 234-6026/27

Chinese Christian Church of Saipan
Worship Services:
Sunday: Chinese and Filipino 9am, English 6pm
Bible Study: Wednesday and Saturday 8pm
Telephone no. 235-8540

Church 360
Suite 103 of Marianas Business Plaza (1st floor of former Nauru Building).
Contact www.church360saipan.org, info@church360saipan.org, or call 888-2116
Celebration Service: Sunday at 10:15am
Prayer Fellowship: Wednesday at 6:00pm

Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan
Morning Service, Sunday, 10:00 am
Evening Service, Sunday, 6:00 pm
Children Sunday School, 10:00am/ 6:00 pm
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7-9 pm
Youth Night of Worship, Friday, 6:30 pm
As Perdido Road
Chalan Piao, Saipan MP 96950
Tel. No. (670) 235-8590
Email: cornerstone@cfemcares.org

Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 10:00am
Place: Garapan, Plumeria Road,
Call 285-6081 for directions

Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 9-11am
Sunday school/ Children's church 9am (nursery available during Sunday service)
GBI Classes: 4-6pm
Prayer Meeting: 6am Tuesday GCA Kagman, Wednesday Navy Hill, Thursday San Antonio
Home Cell Bible Study: 7pm (Through out the week)
Telephone no. 322-5680

Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan
Wednesday: 7:45pm (English)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (Tagalog)
Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

Immanuel United Methodist Church
Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa
(east of Town Center and Beach Road, Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral)
Worship Service: 9:00am
Children's Sunday School: 9:00am
Choir Practice: 8:00am
Singspiration: 8:30am
Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday 7:00pm
Pastor: Millie Carroll 322-6158

Immanuel Methodist Church
(Filipino Congregation)
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)
(Korean Congregation)
Sunday worship: 9am, 10:30, 1pm
Wednesday evening service: 8pm
Daily morning prayer: 5am

Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan
Sunday English Service: 7:30-9am,
Sunday Tagalog Service: 9-11am and 6-8pm,
Wednesday: 7:30-9pm

Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9:20am
Sunday Adult: 11am
Sunday Evening: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 8pm

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 10am–12noon
Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm
Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm
Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm
Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm
Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

Living Hope Church of the Nazarene
Isa Drive, I-Denni Hill across from Ponderosa Heights
Bible Studies for all ages: Sunday at 10:00 am
Worship: Sunday at 11:00 am
Pastor Dave Bucher, 256-1142

Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan
English Worship Service: 9-10:30am
Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm
Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am
Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm
English Sunday School: 11am-12pm
Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting:
English, 7pm-8pm
Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

Missions Connection Ministry
Every Sunday Celebrations:
10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm
Youth Impact Friday: 7pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

Northern Marianas Christian Church
Sunday Worship Service: 10 am at Seventh Day Adventist church on Quartermaster Rd.
Wednesday Service: 7 pm at Fina Sisu Housing FS#1
Contact Nick for more info: 287-1661

Marianas Bible Fellowship Center
Sunday School: 9-9:30am
Divine Worship: 9:30-11am
Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ (4th Watch)
Sunday worship 8:30am
Sunday evening 7:00pm
Prayer meeting, every Wednesday 7:30pm
San Jose village, after San Jose Hotel
Telephone: 789-7566

Saipan Christian Church
Sunday: 7:30am-10am
Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

Saipan Church of Christ
Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 10-11am
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 6-7pm
Thursday Bible Study: 7pm

Saipan Community Church
(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan
(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

First Baptist Church Koblerville
Sunday services:
Sunday school 9:00am
Morning worship 10:00am
Evening service 6:00pm
Wednesday evening bible study 7:00pm

Chinese services
Sunday morning 10:00am
Sunday evening 7:00pm

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church.
Telephone No: 285-4661/2

Thy Word Ministries Saipan
Faith Center
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi

Service Times
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

Upper Room International Ministries
Sunday 5:30am-6:30am
Morning prayer
7am-9am English service
7am-9am Sunday school
10am-12noon English service, Koblerville
Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting
Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service
Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church
Gualo Rai, Saipan

Victory Chapel Christian
Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday AM Worship:10:30am
Sunday PM Worship:7:00am
Wed Worship: 7:30pm
Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times
Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

Victorious Christian Church
(Formerly God's Victorious Army)
Sunday 8:30am to 10:30am - Worship Service
Monday 7:00 pm - Women's Fellowship
Tuesday nights - Home cellgroup
Wednesday - 7:30pm to 9:00pm Mid Week Service
Friday 7:30pm to 9:00pm Prayer Meeting
Saturday nights - Praise and worship practice
Last Friday of the month - Overnight praying meeting
Pastor Brendon Perez - Tel# 2359246

Editor's Note: Information subject to change without prior notice. All information provided by the respective churches. If you want your church or religious activities included or to report changes and errors, call *Saipan Tribune* at 235-6397 or 235-2440 or email editor@saipantribune.com.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 14, 2000

Ex-governor lobbies against trade bill in Congress
Former Lt. Gov. Pete A. Tenorio yesterday asked U.S. House Speaker Dennis Hastert and leaders of the U.S. Congress to block the passage of a proposed legislation that will deny the CNMI of the privilege to use "Made in the USA" label and impose tariff on US-bound goods from the islands. The bill authored by Rep. Bill Franks of New Jersey is considered unprecedented as no US territory has ever had its products become subject to a tariff just to gain entry into the United States. Mr. Tenorio said the legislation will undermine one of the most important and fundamental economic provisions of the Covenant. If enacted into law, it will demonstrate very clearly a deliberate act of selective economic discrimination and an affront to the dignity of the people in the CNMI who continue to believe in the integrity of the United States, he added.

CDA upbeat on multiplier effect of $60M bond
The CNMI government is upbeat on the possible multiplier effect of the $60-million municipal bond that is expected to be floated either next month or in September to finance major infrastructure projects under the Section 702 of the Covenant. Development Authority Board Chair John S. Tenorio said the $60 million bond, which will be used to match federal grants for Capital Improvement Projects, may translate to over $400 million in fresh money circulating within the Northern Marianas economy in a four-year period. Mr. Tenorio said the CNMI inevitably needs these projects, citing the value of the stimulus these new infrastructure activities are anticipated to create on the local economy.

July 14, 2003

Texas firm sues for repayment of $300K loan
A Texas company has sued a local business couple to claim on unpaid disaster loans amounting to approximately $300,000. LPP Mortgage, Ltd. is running after former Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands chair Ronald D. Sablan and his wife, Maria Ana, after it acquired interest over the U.S. Small Business Administration loans. Through lawyer Bruce Mailman, the firm also sued Sy's Corp., a local company controlled by the Sablans, which operates the Pacific Gardenia Hotel.

Workers awarded unpaid wages
Three workers were recently awarded their unpaid wages totaling over $11,000 following an order from the Department of Labor. The three were among eight workers who had filed a complaint against their employer, Shanghai Corp., which closed shop in December 2000 without complying with the terms of their contracts. Those awarded their unpaid wages and liquidated damages are Lai Mei Lian, Zhang Yun Song, and Zeng Jin Rong. Four other complainants are not entitled to a monetary award since they had been paid all their back wages in an earlier labor case settlement, hearing officer Linn H. Asper said in his July 7 order.

July 14, 2004

Tinian public land designated as govt center
Acting Gov. Joaquin Adriano yesterday signed into law a bill designating at least 10 hectares of public land on Tinian that will become the island's centers of government offices. The law also reserves village and agricultural homestead use on some 800 hectares of public land in Kastiyu and Carolinas, which would eventually be awarded to qualified homestead applicants. "Many people on Tinian have waited too long for their village and/or agricultural homesteads and decisive action must be taken to ensure that they are afforded this fundamental right," Adriano said.

US House passes matching req't waiver bill
The federal bill that seeks to increase the waiver requirement on local matching funds for certain federal grants to the insular areas-including the CNMI-is now pending at the U.S. Senate's Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, following its passage by the U.S. House of Representatives. The committee's public lands and forests subcommittee has scheduled a hearing on H.R.1189, which seeks to amend current federal statute governing local matching requirement for certain federal grants. CNMI House Speaker Benigno Fitial expressed support for the measure and would submit his official position to the subcommittee, which scheduled a hearing on July 14 (U.S. time).

Maharlika

PH hits China's duplicity in West Philippine Sea

» US calls on Asean to speak with one voice

By JERRY E. ESPLANADA
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario on Thursday denounced Chinese "duplicity" and "intimidation" in the West Philippine Sea (South China Sea), souring the mood at a Southeast Asian foreign ministers' conference designed to soothe tensions.

"If Philippine sovereignty and jurisdiction can be denigrated by a powerful country through pressure, duplicity, intimidation and the threat of the use of force, the international community should be concerned about the behavior," Del Rosario told the annual ministerial meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh, according to an official statement.

Del Rosario was referring to a recent standoff between Chinese and Philippine ships at a rocky outcrop called Scarborough Shoal (Panatag Shoal), which is claimed by both sides.

Stressing Asean needs to "speak with one voice," US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton joined Del Rosario in urging Asean to take a common stand on the Scarborough dispute and on other Chinese incursions in the West Philippine Sea.

Clinton made the statement on Monday during an Asean-US meeting, which she and Del Rosario both chaired.

Threat to peace

Clinton issued the call for a unified Asean stand on the eve of her meeting with Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi on the sidelines of the Asean ministerial meeting.

Several Asian governments have expressed worry about China's expansive maritime claims. Tensions have threatened to boil over, with a standoff between Chinese and Philippine ships and sharp disagreements between China and Vietnam.

At Thursday's Asean ministerial meeting, Del Rosario said Beijing's increasingly assertive stance in the West Philippine Sea posed a "threat to the peace and stability" in the Asia Pacific region.

"If left unchecked, the increasing tensions that is being generated in the process could further escalate into physical hostilities which no one wants," Del Rosario said.

"This puts in greater jeopardy the remarkable economic dynamism of our region which was made possible by the relative peace and stability that prevailed in the past years."

Chinese resistance

The Obama administration pressed Beijing to accept the proposed code of conduct for resolving territorial disputes.

The US mediation effort has faced resistance from China but has endeared Washington to once-hostile countries in Southeast Asia.

China claims virtually the entire West Philippine Sea and has created an entirely new city to administer it, sparking deep concern from rival claimants. The sea hosts about a third of the world's cargo traffic, has rich fishing grounds and is believed to store vast oil and gas reserves.

At the Asean-US meeting, Clinton said it would be best for the regional bloc to "clearly outline its position" on the conflict over Scarborough.

Manila refers to the shoal variously as Panatag Shoal and Bajo de Masinloc, while Beijing calls it Huangyan Island. The shoal lies 240 kilometers off Zambales province.

"What might be a challenge today for some of the Asean members, if left unaddressed by all of Asean, could lead tomorrow to issues that may become problems for other Asean members," Clinton warned, according to a press statement issued by the Department of Foreign Affairs in Manila.

AP

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, center, greets her counterpart Albert del Rosario of Philippines during the ASEAN-U.S. Ministerial Meeting in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, Wednesday, July 11, 2012.

Code of conduct

Clinton was obviously also referring to the tensions generated by the dispute over the Spratly Islands involving China, Taiwan and four Asean members—the Philippines, Malaysia, Vietnam and Brunei. Asean also includes Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Burma, Laos and Cambodia.

According to Clinton, Washington "looks to Asean and claimant states to provide leadership on this issue, and recognizes the important role of Asean to find consensus and advance a common Asean position."

"Asean needs to meet its own goals and standards and be able to speak with one voice on issues facing the region," she said, also urging the group to "complete a regional code of conduct in a timely fashion."

Del Rosario said "the current situation in the West Philippine Sea deserves urgent attention from Asean because it has a direct impact on unimpeded commerce and freedom of navigation in the region."

"The adherence of all countries in the region to a set of fair and transparent rules, as embodied in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, will generate greater mutual trust and respect in the region," he said.

Baseless claim

In April, Del Rosario asked Asean to take a stand on the Philippine dispute with China over Panatag Shoal and other Chinese incursions in the disputed sea.

In a text message to the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Del Rosario said "all, not just the Philippines, will ultimately be negatively affected if we do not take a stand."

"Since the freedom of navigation and unimpeded commerce in the West Philippine Sea are of great importance to many nations, all should consider what China is endeavoring to do in the Scarborough Shoal in order to pursue its so-called full sovereign rights over the entire West Philippine Sea on the basis of a nine-dash line claim, using a historical record that's clearly baseless," Del Rosario pointed out.

The nine-dash claim is China's delineation of its territory in the West Philippine Sea, with nine dashes on the map that enclose all of the Spratlys archipelago.

Closer US-China ties

On Thursday, sitting across from Yang Jiechi at a long table in a grand hall with chandeliers, Clinton stressed the different ways Washington and Beijing were cooperating. Yang spoke of building an even closer US-Chinese relationship.

Neither side spoke about the West Philippine Sea while reporters were allowed in the room.

"The United States has no territorial claims there and we do not take sides in disputes about territorial or maritime boundaries," Clinton told the foreign ministers.

"But we do have an interest in freedom of navigation, the maintenance of peace and stability, respect for international law and unimpeded lawful commerce in the South China Sea," she added.

Asian countries should "work collaboratively and diplomatically to resolve disputes without coercion, without intimidation, without threats and without use of force," Clinton added.

Asean's 10 members announced earlier this week that they had drafted a set of rules governing maritime rights and navigation, and procedures for when governments disagree. But China is not a member of the group and hasn't agreed to anything.

ASEAN fails to reach common ground on China row

By SOPHENG CHEANG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—Southeast Asian diplomats failed to reach common ground Friday on how to deal with a touchy territorial dispute involving China, as a regional conference ended without a joint statement for the first time in the bloc's history.

The failure to come up with the joint statement, unprecedented in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' 45-year history, underscores deep divisions within the 10-member bloc amid conflicting territorial claims in the South China Sea involving four of its members plus China and Taiwan.

ASEAN Secretary-General Surin Pitsuwan of Thailand said the Philippines and Vietnam wanted the statement to include a reference to the recent standoff between China and the Philippines at a shoal in the South China Sea claimed by both countries.

The Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs blamed host Cambodia for "consistently opposing any mention of the Scarborough Shoal at all" and for announcing that a joint communique cannot be issued.

Cambodian Foreign Minister Hor Namhong said his government, which has close ties with China, does not support any side in the disputes.

He said the failure to issue a statement lies with all ASEAN members, not just Cambodia.

"I requested that we issue the joint communique without mention of the South Shina Sea dispute ... but some member countries repeatedly insisted to put the issue of the Scarborough Shoal," he told reporters.

"I have told my colleagues that the meeting of the ASEAN foreign ministers is not a court, a place to give a verdict about the dispute," he said.

ASEAN's members announced earlier this week that they had drafted a set of rules governing maritime rights and navigation, and procedures for when governments disagree. But China is not a member of the group and did not agree to anything.

The ASEAN countries presented their proposal to China at this week's conference in Cambodia's capital, though Beijing will probably want to water down any language that ties its hands.

The standoff between China and the Philippines in the Scarborough Shoal began in April when the Philippines accused Chinese fishermen of poaching in its exclusive economic zone, including the shoal. During the tensions, both sides sent government ships to the area, though both have since withdrawn vessels.

Vietnam has protested a recent announcement by the China National Offshore Oil Corp. opening nine oil and gas lots for international bidders in areas overlapping with existing Vietnamese exploration blocks. Vietnam says the lots lie entirely within its 200-nautical-mile exclusive economic zone and continental shelf.

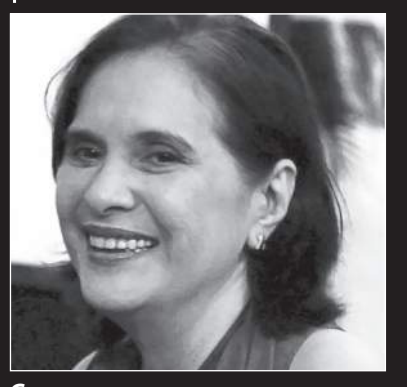
Maita Gomez, beauty queen and activist; 64

Former beauty queen and political activist Maita Gomez died in her sleep in her Quezon City home Thursday, according to film director Behn Cervantes.

Gomez, 64, who represented the country in the Miss World contest in 1967, did not wake up from an afternoon nap, Cervantes said.

It was her son who discovered his mother had died when he tried to wake her up at about 2 p.m. yesterday, the director said.

Gomez, a top model for designer Pitoy Moreno before winning the Miss Philippines title and the right to represent the country in the Miss World beauty pageant, caused a sensation when she went underground to join the communist guerrilla movement to fight the Marcos dictatorship. According to reports, she became a political activist while studying medicine at the University of the Philippines in the 1960s.



Gomez

After the Edsa People Power Revolution of 1986, she became a popular advocate for women's rights and other social and political causes. She was one of the founders of the Kaiba women's party under which she ran for senator but lost in 1987. She again made an unsuccessful run for Congress in Manila's fifth district in 1995.

She is survived by four children. Her remains are at Funeraria Paz at the Manila Memorial Park. ***(Philippine Daily Inquirer)***

Not one human rights violator arrested or jailed—CHR chief

By MAILA AGER
INQUIRER.NET

MANILA, Philippines—Two years into the Aquino administration, not a single human rights violator has been arrested and sent to jail, Commission on Human Rights chairperson Loretta Anne Rosales admitted to INQUIRER.net.

"*Wala pa* [None yet]," Rosales said when asked if an arrest or conviction was made by this government, adding, "That still has to be done".

Her admission confirmed reports by the New York-based human rights watchdog, Human Rights Watch, and the State Department, which said that the Aquino government "has not successfully prosecuted a single case of extrajudicial killing or enforced disappearance, including those committed during his presidency."

In the report "No Justice Adds to the Pain," HRW noted that there were 10 cases of extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances since Aquino took office. No one, however, has been arrested for these cases, it added.

The State Department said the leading human rights problems in the Philippines were "continued arbitrary, unlawful and extrajudicial killings by national, provincial and local government agents and by anti-government insurgents; an under-resourced and understaffed justice system that resulted in limited investigations, few prosecutions and lengthy trials of human rights abuse cases; and widespread official corruption and abuse of power."

Perhaps what can be considered a black mark in Aquino's human rights record is his administration's failure to bring to justice retired General Jovito Palparan, which Rosales attributed to efforts by some sectors to "coddle" the former military officer and the "weak criminal and justice system".

Bypassed legislation

Another is the failure of Congress to pass a measure that would compensate the 9,539 human rights victims of martial law that include Rosales herself.

When President Benigno Aquino III faced the nation in July 2011, he made a push for the passage of the measure.

"We aim to give due compensation to the victims of Martial Law…" Aquino told the jampacked gallery at the House of Representatives.

On March 26, 2012, the House of Representatives transmitted to the Senate the proposed measure compensating the human rights victims during the dictatorship of late strongman Ferdinand Marcos.

"It was part of the last SONA of Pnoy [Aquino's nickname] and I made sure that it passed the House," said Deputy Speaker Lorenzo "Erin" Tañada, co-author of the measure in the House.

The bill, however, has remained pending in Congress.

No less than Rosales described the non-passage of the measure in Congress as an "injustice" to the martial law victims.

"Of course, there is injustice because it has been taking so long but they could not still pass it," said Rosales.

"You can see here the level of appreciation of Congress on important things like these," she lamented.

And even when she was the Akbayan Partylist group's representative in the House, Rosales had pushed for the passage of the same bill – a fight she has continued up to now that she heads the CHR.

A 'black mark'

Another nagging issue is the failure of the Aquino government to arrest Palparan.

It was in December 2011 that a warrant of arrest was issued against Palparan, who was charged with the alleged kidnapping and disappearance of University of the Philippines students Sherlyn Cadapan and Karen Empeño in 2006.

But Palparan evaded arrest and has since been in hiding.

Unlike the past administration, Rosales said there were efforts by the Aquino administration to send Palparan to jail.

"It's not as if the Palace, at the level of the executive, is not conscious of how it's important to try and look for these people," she said.

"But when we have a weak governing system, a weak criminal justice system that you're operating on where the problems are structural and systemic, it's going to take a little longer than expected or desired. That's what it's all about."

But Rosales also was quick to defend the incumbent government, saying that unlike before when "they never bothered to look for him [Palparan], they never bothered to address these questions . . . now efforts are ongoing to look for him".

"In the past administration, he [Palparan] was coddled, he was promoted. I tried to stop his promotion in the past administration but I failed. He was promoted," Rosales said.

"In the current administration, he's being looked for. But because of the past administration's connection, it's a little more difficult than usual," she added.

The CHR chief suspected that Palparan was being "coddled" by people, whom he had taken care of when he was still in the military.

"They could be military or they could be politician or they could be business people, whom Palparan has taken care of well."

This is just one "stumbling block" on why the authorities could not arrest Palparan, Rosales added.

'Weak criminal system'

The second stumbling block, she said, was the "weak criminal system that needs to be strengthened, that needs to be enforced."

But Rosales said that "the other side of it is the empowerment of the citizenry so that they can be…more vigilant. And then the bureaucracy, the bureaucracy has to be overhauled. You have to give it more energy, re-energized so that it becomes non-aligned, non-partisan and serves the people…"

Aquino backs national artist honor for comedy king

AP

In this Nov. 8, 2010 photo released by Malacanang Palace, Philippine President Benigno Aquino III, left, reacts to a joke by actor-comedian Rodolfo Vera Quizon Sr. after conferring him the Grand Collar of the Order of the Golden Heart at the Rizal Ceremonial Hall in Malacanang Palace in Manila, Philippines, in recognition of the actor's contributions to the country's entertainment industry as its "King of Comedy" and of his charitable works such as providing scholarships to deserving children of migrant workers.

By CHRISTINE O. AVENDAÑO, JEROME ANING
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

President Benigno Aquino on Thursday said he favored the conferment of the national artist award on Rodolfo "Dolphy" Quizon but there is a process that has to be observed.

"I agree with the proposal," he said, but added that a process needed to be observed and that this required, among others, that officials of concerned agencies debate and vote on this before he could approve the award.

"In truth, I only have a ministerial role here," Mr. Aquino said.

The remains of Dolphy, who died at the age of 83 on Tuesday after a long battle with a debilitating pulmonary disease, were transferred to the sprawling Heritage Memorial Park before dawn Thursday— hours after people he had touched paid tribute to him in a two-hour televised show, "Handog ni Pidol," at the ABS-CBN studios in Quezon City.

The President acknowledged a growing clamor to declare Dolphy a national artist, he, who made millions of Filipinos laugh through good times and bad over six decades as the king of comedy on stage, radio, television and movies.

The National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) Thursday reiterated that while the NCCA recognized the clamor to confer the award on Dolphy, the policy remained that any nominee would have to undergo the selection process.

"We fully recognize and appreciate his artistic contributions in the country—encompassing several generations. He was able to lighten the burden of living for many Filipinos because of his sense of humor which appeal very much to the Filipinos, and alleviate national pain, especially during times of crisis," the NCCA said in a statement mourning the death of Dolphy.

The NCCA and the Cultural Center of the Philippines screen nominees and submit a list of seven national artist awardees for the President's approval.

NCCA Chairman Felipe de Leon Jr. told reporters on Wednesday that the commission may posthumously grant Dolphy a separate honor, the Dangal ng Haraya lifetime achievement award, which is given every February. It is the highest award given by the commission to those who have made a significant contribution to Philippine culture and arts.

De Leon called Dolphy a "national treasure" and "a true gem of the film and television industry." However, he said that the selection process for the national artist award was "too slow" as it had to screen hundreds of nominees, and the commission lacked personnel and had limited budget.

He noted that the late comedian was nominated for national artist in 2009 and this could be "carried over" to this year's nomination list. The selection process started this month and ends November.

In the interview with reporters Thursday, Mr. Aquino noted that there was still a pending case in the Supreme Court that questioned the declaration of the last awardees.

"We don't want a repeat of this," he said, referring to the controversy over awards granted by the administration of then President Gloria Arroyo to movie director Carlos Caparas, among others.

Mr. Aquino said he deeply respected Dolphy, who he stressed helped society very much through the arts he had pursued all his life. "He helped a lot of people and we really need to highlight him as a good example for the next generation," the President said.

Malacañang announced Thursday night that the President declared Friday a National Day of Remembrance in honor of the late actor.

"The President asks all our countrymen to reflect on the art and artistry, the personal kindness and generosity, and deep patriotism, of Dolphy, and the manner in which he exemplified in his works and life, the positive values of the Filipino people. The President asks all our countrymen to make this Day of Remembrance a celebration of the full life that Dolphy, with utmost generosity, shared with the country," the Palace said in a statement.

Police have mobilized a 25-member security force for the expected surge of fans at his wake, according to Senior Superintendent Tomas Apolinario Jr., chief of the Taguig Police.

The family announced there would be a public viewing from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. until Saturday. He will be buried at 3 p.m. on Sunday, also at Heritage Park. ***With reports from Marinel R. Cruz and Nathaniel R. Melican***

ADB cuts growth forecast for developing Asia

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Asian Development Bank cut growth forecast for developing Asia on Thursday, citing Europe's worsening financial crisis, sluggish recovery in the U.S. and slower growth in China and India.

The Manila-based lending institution predicted that the region's economies will expand by 6.6 percent this year and 7.1 percent next year. The figures are lower than the bank's growth outlook announced in April of 6.9 percent this year and 7.3 percent in 2013.

The report said economic growth in developing Asia moderated during the first half of 2012 as slower growth in the United States and the eurozone reduced demand for the region's exports.

"Worries over the economic strength of important developing economies have also emerged recently," it added.

Slower growth in Asia's two largest economies, China and India, and the effects of the unwinding of policy stimulus in some countries hampered the region's development in the first half of the year, the bank said.

It lowered the 2012 growth outlook for China from 8.5 percent to 8.2 percent, and next year's growth from 8.7 percent to 8.5 percent.

The report noted a fall in China's net exports, industrial production and fixed asset investment. But it said government spending on health, education and big infrastructure projects should give its economy some boost.

India's outlook is clouded by a combination of high inflation and poor external and internal demand, with the economy expected to grow 6.5 percent this year and 7.3 percent next year. That's down from the earlier forecast of 7 percent for 2012 and 7.5 percent for 2013.

The report said the weaker global environment is expected to affect growth in Southeast Asia but domestic demand and reconstruction activities should keep the economic output robust. The economies are seen to post growth of 5.2 percent in 2012 and 5.6 percent in 2013, virtually unchanged from April.

A strong rebound in Thailand, healthy growth in the Philippines, and increasing consumer demand in Indonesia have aided the Southeast Asian economies, the bank said.

Forty-five economies in Asia and the Pacific make up developing Asia.

Samu't Sari

CONFIRMED

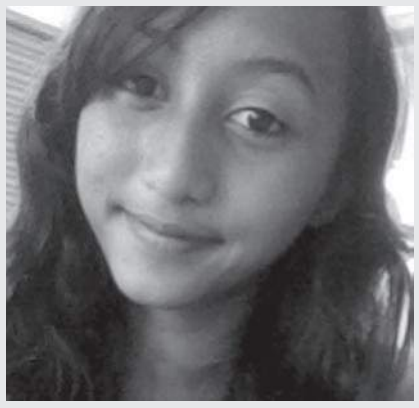
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Senators pose with Edward C. Sablan after the upper chamber confirmed Sablan's re-appointment to the Commonwealth Development Authority board of directors Thursday morning. The Senate adopted by a vote of 7-0 the Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations' report recommending Sablan's re-appointment.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy 3rd birthday to our Ma'gas ShaceyJane Ramangmou Sablan! You fill our hearts with joy! I love you, baby girl, with all my heart and my love for you will never depart.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



ou to know that despite all the misunderstanding, your three stoogies will still always love you to the moon and back. With love, your three stoogies, your queen and king, and the entire family under the "nunu tree."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

PROBATION, PAROLE AND COMMUNITY SUPERVISION WEEK

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Acting governor Eloy Inos, Judiciary officials, Office of Adult Probation officials and staff, and Division of Youth Services youth leaders have their picture taken Thursday at the CNMI Supreme Court courtroom after the signing of a proclamation declaring the week of July 15-21, 2012, as the 2012 Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week. The week recognizes the amazing work and accomplishments of probation, parole and community corrections personnel.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Division of Youth Services leader Angel Malasarte, left, read the proclamation before acting governor Eloy Inos signed it on Thursday at the CNMI Supreme Court courtroom.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Office of Adult Probation members, from left, chief Ursula Lifoifoi Aldan, Probation officers Jose Mafnas, Oscar Torres, and Shirley Camacho-Ogumoro and assistant probation officer Priscillia Cabrera.

CUC MEETING

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

From left, assistant attorney general Tiberius Mocanu, Commonwealth Utilities Corp. acting executive director Alan Fletcher and CUC chief financial officer Charles Warren listen to questions from members of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation's Public Utilities and Infrastructure Committee during a meeting on a planned $10 million loan that did not materialize and other CUC matters Thursday afternoon in the House chamber.

Business

Wells Fargo to pay $175M in lending settlement

WASHINGTON (AP)—Wells Fargo Bank will pay at least $175 million to settle accusations that it discriminated against African-American and Hispanic borrowers in violation of fair-lending laws, the Justice Department announced Thursday.

Wells Fargo, the nation's largest residential home mortgage originator, allegedly engaged in a pattern or practice of discrimination against qualified African-American and Hispanic borrowers from 2004 through 2009.

At a news conference, Deputy Attorney General James Cole said the bank's discriminatory lending practices resulted in more than 34,000 African-American and Hispanic borrowers in 36 states and the District of Columbia paying higher rates for loans solely because of the color of their skin.

Cole said that with the settlement, the second largest of its kind in history, the government will ensure that borrowers hit hard by the housing crisis will have an opportunity to access homeownership.

The bank will pay $125 million in compensation for borrowers who were steered into subprime mortgages or who paid higher fees and rates than white borrowers because of their race or national origin rather than because of differences in credit-worthiness.

Wells Fargo also will pay $50 million in direct down payment assistance to borrowers in areas of the country where the Justice Department identified large number of discrimination victims. Those areas are Washington, D.C., Chicago, Philadelphia, Oakland and San Francisco, New York City, Cleveland, Riverside, Calif., and Baltimore.

"The department's action makes clear that we will hold financial institutions accountable, including some of the nation's largest, for lending discrimination," Cole said.

The settlement will bring "swift and meaningful relief" to African-American and Hispanic borrowers who received subprime loans when they should have received prime loans or who paid more for their loans, said Thomas Perez, assistant attorney general for the Justice Department's civil rights division.

Perez said that because of the bank's practices "an African-American wholesale customer in the Chicago area in 2007 seeking a $300,000 loan paid on average $2,937 more in fees than a similarly qualified white applicant. And these fees were not based on any objective factors relating to credit risk. These fees amounted to a racial surtax. A Latino borrower in the Miami area in 2007 seeking a $300,000 paid on average $2,538 more than a similarly qualified white applicant. The racial surtax for African Americans in Miami in 2007 was $3,657."

AP

Deputy Attorney General James M. Cole, left, and Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division Thomas E. Perez take part in a news conference at the Justice Department in Washington, Thursday, July 12, 2012, to announce that Wells Fargo Bank will pay at least $175 million to settle accusations that it discriminated against African-American and Hispanic borrowers in violation of fair-lending laws.

China's economic slowdown painful despite stimulus

BEIJING (AP)—China's economic slowdown slammed into Li Fangliang, cutting sales at his Shanghai auto parts store by half.

"There are just fewer and fewer customers," said Li, who has avoided layoffs among his four employees. "I plan to start a shop online to find new markets."

From shopkeepers to shipbuilders, some sectors are feeling more pain from China's deepest slowdown since the 2008 global crisis than still-robust headline growth of about 8 percent might suggest. Higher spending by state industry and government-directed investment is pumping up the world's second-largest economy, but that is masking the fact that the private sector is cutting jobs and scrambling to prop up plunging sales.

Data due out Friday are expected to show growth in the three months ending in June fell as low as 7.3 percent, down from the previous quarter's nearly three-year low of 8.1 percent. That is in line with this year's official 7.5 percent target. But revenues for companies in construction, shipbuilding and export manufacturing are down by up to half compared with a year ago.

The slowdown is a setback for economies around the world that were looking to China to drive demand for exports and support global growth.

"Domestic demand remains weak," said JP Morgan economist Francis Fu in a report. "Corporate profits have continued to decline and incentive for business investment is low."

Other industries including cargo handling and manufacturers of shoes, clothing, optical fiber and wind turbines are suffering lower profits or losses and cutting jobs, according to Chinese news reports.

Job losses could fuel political tensions, eroding economic gains that underpin the Communist Party's claim to power. The party is trying to enforce calm ahead of a handover of power to a younger generation of leaders this year. Though China's growth even now is higher than those of developed economies, many industries depend on a much faster expansion to propel demand for new factories, cargo ships and other goods.

Construction, which supports millions of jobs, was plunged into a deep freeze by limits imposed on home purchases to cool surging prices. Demand fell further as companies facing weak sales put off building new facilities.

"A lot of building projects are half-finished and forced to stop. I think it is even worse than 2008," said a manager for Hangzhou Yuanlong Construction Co. in the eastern city of Hangzhou. She would give only her surname, An.

The company, with 20 employees and four teams of independent construction contractors, is owed 2 million yuan ($300,000) by cash-strapped customers and is having trouble collecting, An said.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

All eyes on JPMorgan as banks report earnings

NEW YORK (AP)—It's been a scandal-filled few months for banks. JPMorgan Chase revealed a $2 billion trading loss, triggering an investigation by the government and hearings in Congress. Then the large banks were implicated in a global dust-up over interest rate manipulation. All this happened amid signs of a slowdown in the U.S. and Chinese economies and a debt crisis in Europe, which won't help the banks as they report their financial results for April through June.

Fewer auto closings reduce US unemployment claims

WASHINGTON (AP)—The number of people seeking U.S. unemployment benefits plunged last week. But a big reason is that automakers have skipped some of their usual summer shutdowns to keep up with demand, causing fewer temporary auto layoffs. Economists expect the number of Americans seeking unemployment aid to go back up in coming weeks. The auto industry's recovery has helped support the struggling U.S. economy. U.S. auto sales in the first half of the year jumped 15 percent over the same period a year ago. Sales of new vehicles surged in June. Automakers also began Independence Day promotions early, lifting sales at the end of the month.

Oil hovers near $86 after China growth slows in 2Q

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil hovered near $86 a barrel Friday as economic growth in China, the world's second-largest crude consumer, slowed in the second quarter to a three-year low. China said its gross domestic product expanded 7.6 percent in the April to June period from a year earlier, the lowest since 2009 but in line with analyst estimates. China also reported that retail sales and factory output growth slowed in June. Crude has fallen from $106 in May amid signs of slowing economic growth in the U.S., Europe and China. Some analysts expect global policymakers to continue to cut lending rates and boost fiscal spending, which should spur economic growth and oil demand.

Senate rejects Dem, GOP business tax cut bills

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate on Thursday rejected rival Democratic and Republican plans for cutting taxes on businesses, with both parties refusing to yield ground in their election-year struggle over how best to spark the economy.

Each side said the other's bill would not do enough to make a difference for struggling families and businesses looking for help. Underscoring the sharp partisan elbows being thrown as this November's presidential and congressional elections draw near, they swapped charges that the other party was letting political goals trump real efforts to revive a job market that everyone agrees has been sputtering for too long.

"We're in the midst of another Senate floor show, pursuing legislation that will get the president and his allies campaign talking points but will do absolutely nothing to spur economic growth and job creation," said Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah.

"There's no reason for them to oppose this bill, other than they're trying to hurt President Obama, small businesses and the middle class," said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev.

Thursday's showdown was a precursor to a much bigger battle already under way over renewing reductions in income tax rates, dividends and other levies on most taxpayers that will otherwise expire in January. President Barack Obama and Democratic leaders want to let tax rates rise for households earning more than $250,000, while Republicans want everyone included when tax cuts are extended, a clash that pits Democrats' tax fairness arguments against GOP claims that higher taxes on the rich thwart job creation.

The Democratic bill cutting business taxes was derailed 53-44, with Democrats falling seven votes short of the 60 they needed to overcome GOP procedural barriers. Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia was the only Democrat to oppose the measure, while Sens. Scott Brown of Massachusetts and Dean Heller of Nevada were the only Republicans to favor it. All three face tight reelection races this fall.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
12,573.27	1,334.76	2,866.19
-31.26	-6.69	0.00
-0.25%	-0.50%	+0.00%

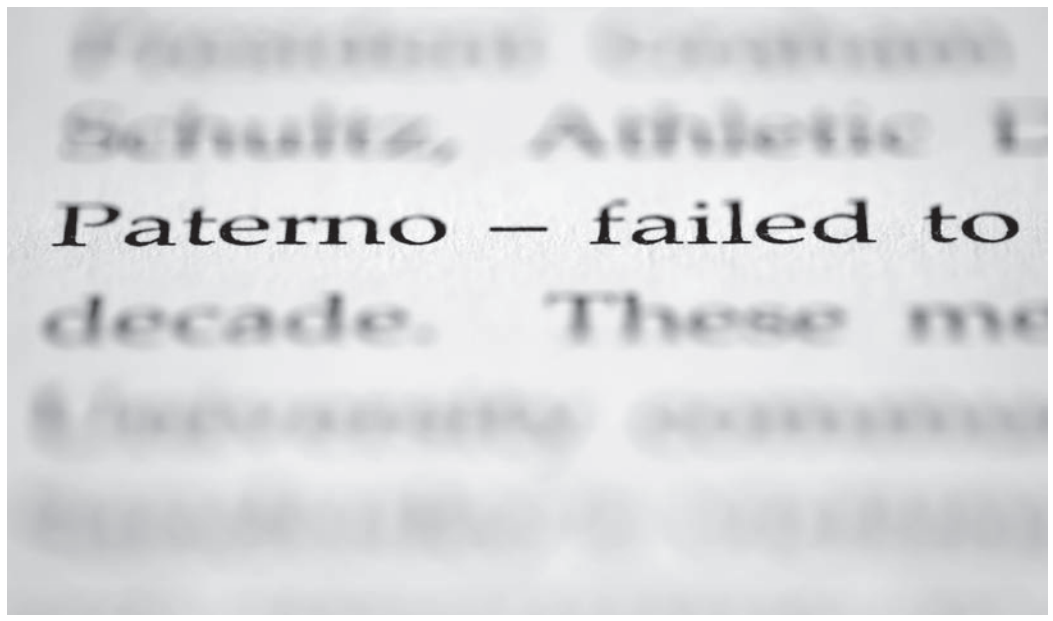
EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	0.9843	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7564	Philippine Peso	42.025
British Pound	0.648	Indian Rupee	55.6675	Singapore Dollar	1.2701
Canadian Dollar	1.0187	Indonesian Rupiah	9493.75	South Korean Won	1150.2
Chinese Yuan	6.3777	Japanese Yen	79.26	Swiss Franc	0.985
Euro	0.8202	Malaysian Ringgit	3.1885	Taiwan Dollar	29.9985
		New Zealand Dollar	1.264	Thailand Baht	31.775

Nation

Penn State probe accuses Paterno of cover-up



AP

An excerpt from the Freeh Group's report is shown in Philadelphia, Thursday, July 12, 2012. The report, Penn State's investigation into the Jerry Sandusky scandal, concludes that Hall of Fame coach Joe Paterno and other senior officials "concealed critical facts relating to Sandusky's child abuse".

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Joe Paterno and other top Penn State officials buried child sexual abuse allegations against Jerry Sandusky more than a decade ago to avoid bad publicity, according to a scathing report Thursday that exposed a powerful "culture of reverence" for the football program and portrayed the Hall of Fame coach as more deeply involved in the scandal than previously thought.

The alleged cover-up by Paterno, then-university President Graham Spanier and two other Penn State administrators allowed Sandusky to prey on other boys for years, said the report by former FBI Director Louis Freeh, who was hired by the university's trustees to investigate.

He called the officials' behavior "callous and shocking."

"Our most saddening and sobering finding is the total disregard for the safety and welfare of Sandusky's child victims by the most senior leaders at Penn State," Freeh said at a news conference in Philadelphia upon the release of the 267-page report. "The most powerful men at Penn State failed to take any steps for 14 years to protect the children who Sandusky victimized."

The findings of the $6.5 million, eight-month investigation into one of the biggest scandals in the history of college sports could further stain Paterno's reputation. The revered coach who emphasized integrity both on and off the field and ran what was considered one of the cleanest programs in sports died of lung cancer in January at age 85, months after he was summarily fired by the trustees.

Freeh said that while he regretted the damage the findings would do to Paterno's "terrific legacy," the coach "was an integral part of this active decision to conceal," and his firing was justified.

Asked whether the actions of the four officials amounted to a crime such as conspiracy or obstruction, Freeh said that would be a matter for a grand jury to decide.

In a statement, Paterno's family strongly denied he protected Sandusky for fear of bad publicity.

"The idea that any sane, responsible adult would knowingly cover up for a child predator is impossible to accept. The far more realistic conclusion is that many people didn't fully understand what was happening and underestimated or misinterpreted events," the family said. "Sandusky was a great deceiver. He fooled everyone."

The findings could have consequences for the criminal case against Penn State athletic director Tim Curley and retired senior vice president Gary Schultz, who are awaiting trial on charges of failing to report abuse and lying to a grand jury. In addition, the Pennsylvania attorney general's office is still investigating the scandal, and others could be charged.

Sandusky, a former member of Paterno's coaching staff, is awaiting sentencing after being convicted last month of sexually abusing 10 boys over 15 years.

Freeh and his team, which included lawyers and former law enforcement officials, interviewed more than 430 people and examined more than 3.5 million emails, handwritten notes and other documents. Paterno died before he could be interviewed but testified before a grand jury.

The investigation focused largely on the university officials' decision not to go to child-welfare authorities in 2001 after a coaching assistant told Paterno that he had seen Sandusky sexually abusing a boy in the locker room showers.

Paterno and the others gave various explanations for their decision, saying among other things that they misunderstood the allegations, that they did the best they could and that this was the "humane" way to handle the matter.

But the Freeh report said: "It is more reasonable to conclude that, in order to avoid the consequences of bad publicity, the most powerful leaders at the university—Spanier, Schultz, Paterno and Curley—repeatedly concealed critical facts relating to Sandusky's child abuse from authorities, the university's board of trustees, the Penn State community and the public at large."

A number of other factors contributed to the decision to keep quiet, the report found, including "a culture of reverence for the football program that is ingrained at all levels of the campus community."

Spreading the blame around, the report also said the trustees failed to exercise oversight and didn't inquire deeply into the matter when they finally learned of it.

Spanier's lawyers Thursday denied Spanier took part in a cover-up and said Freeh's conclusion "is simply not supported by the facts." Spanier was ousted along with Paterno four days after Sandusky's arrest last November.

Attorneys for Curley and Schultz said that the investigation was flawed and that their clients would prove their innocence in court. Curley lawyer Caroline Roberto called it a "lopsided document that leaves the majority of the story untold."

Freeh said officials had opportunities in 1998 and 2001 to step in.

In 1998, police investigated after a woman complained that her son had showered with Sandusky. The investigation did not result in charges. But the emails show Paterno clearly followed the 1998 case, Freeh said. University officials took no action at the time to limit Sandusky's access to campus.

Thousands fall victim to utility payment scam

MADISON, Wis. (AP)—As much as President Barack Obama wants your vote, he's not actually offering to pay your monthly bills.

But thousands of Americans have been persuaded otherwise, falling victim to a fast-moving scam that claims to be part of an Obama administration program to help pay utility bills in the midst of a scorching summer.

The scheme spread quickly across the nation in recent weeks with help from victims who unwittingly shared it on social media sites before realizing they had been conned out of personal information such as Social Security, credit card and checking account numbers.

"No one knows who is behind this," said Katherine Hutt, spokeswoman for the Council of Better Business Bureaus in Arlington, Va. "We're pretty concerned. It seems to have really taken off."

People from all corners of the country report being duped, from New Jersey to California, Wisconsin to Florida and all parts in between.

The scam benefits from being cleverly executed and comes at a time when air conditioners in much of the country are running around the clock to tame record-high temperatures.

Here's how it works: Victims typically receive an automated phone call informing them of the nonexistent utility program that will supposedly pay up to $1,000. There have also been reports of the hoax spreading by text message, flyers left at homes and even personal visits.

Victims are told that all they have to do is provide their personal information. In exchange, they are given a bank routing number and checking account number to provide their utility company when making a payment.

The swindle works because the payments with the fake bank account number are initially accepted. Only when the payments are processed hours or days later is the fake number caught and rejected.

But by then, victims have told friends about the offer, posted it online and, most important, turned over personal information that could allow con artists to dip into their bank accounts or steal their identity.

There's no way to accurately measure how many people have been affected, "but this one feels like it's pretty widespread," Hutt said.

Taneisha Morris' sister was drawn into the hoax after a friend received a text promising federal assistance with her bills. The sister sent the information to Morris, a Detroit woman who is unemployed after losing her job as a manager at a KFC restaurant.

Documents conflict on when Romney left Bain

WASHINGTON (AP)—Documents filed by Mitt Romney's former company conflict with the Republican presidential candidate's statements about when he gave up control of the private equity firm Bain Capital. President Barack Obama's campaign seized on the discrepancies Thursday to charge that Romney was lying about his background.

Romney, in turn, said Obama was the one being dishonest, rolling out a hard-hitting television ad that accused the president of launching "misleading, unfair and untrue" attacks about the Republican's role in outsourcing U.S. jobs.

"When a president doesn't tell the truth, how can we trust him to lead?" the narrator says in the Romney ad titled "No Evidence."

Obama has accused Romney of being an "outsourcing pioneer" who invested in companies that shipped jobs to China, India and elsewhere overseas. But Romney, who has made his business experience the central part of his candidacy, claims he had no role in outsourcing U.S. jobs because much of that activity didn't happen until after 1999, when he says he had given up operational control at Bain.

Both candidates dug in on their positions, dispatching aides to level deeply personal criticisms aimed at casting each opponent as little more than a typical politician. Each candidate is seeking to sully his rival's integrity in hopes of gaining ground in closely contested campaign four months before Election Day. But the strategy carries risks: It could alienate voters—especially critical independents—who are turned off by negative campaigning and want to see the candidates focus on the economy and job growth.

At issue is when Romney left Bain, and whether he was at the helm when it sent jobs overseas.

ACROSS THE NATION

Father charged in 3 daughters' deaths in Wisconsin

MADISON, Wis. (AP)—A North Dakota man killed his three young daughters after they rushed to greet him during a surprise visit and left their bodies tucked in their beds, Wisconsin authorities said in court documents released Thursday. St. Croix County prosecutors filed a criminal complaint charging Aaron Schaffhausen, 34, with three counts of first-degree intentional homicide. Each count carries a mandatory life sentence. Circuit Judge Howard W. Cameron set Schaffhausen's bail at $2 million Thursday and ordered him to have no contact with the girls' mother or her immediate family. Schaffhausen's attorney, listed in online court records as public defender John Kucinski, didn't immediately respond to a telephone message left at his office.

Parents accused of locking girl in chicken coop

BUTLER, Ga. (AP)—A Georgia girl told investigators she spent days at a time locked inside a small outhouse and a chicken coop, and had to wear a shock collar because she didn't do her school work, authorities said Thursday. The 15-year-old girl's parents, Samuel and Diana Franklin, were arrested earlier this week on multiple counts of child cruelty and false imprisonment. They were released on bond, and declined to comment as they left the courthouse Thursday for what appeared to be a custody hearing. "I've never seen anything like this personally," said Special Agent Wayne Smith of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. "If the allegations prove to be true, it's a very severe case."

Chinese kitten stows away on LA-bound freighter

CARSON, Calif. (AP)—A 3-month-old kitten survived a journey across the Pacific, traveling from Shanghai to Los Angeles without food or water while locked in a freight container on a ship. The orange-and-white short-haired kitten traveled 6,500 miles before arriving Wednesday. It was unclear how many days the kitten was in the container. The trip can take as long as 21 days, according to freighter-travel.com.

Asia

Militants take villagers hostage in Pakistan

KHAR, Pakistan (AP)—Dozens of militants coming from Afghanistan took scores of villagers hostage in Pakistan's northwest on Thursday, sparking fighting with the army that killed at least 14 people, Pakistani officials said.

The incident is the latest chapter in a broader infiltration trend that has seen Islamabad railing against Afghan and NATO forces for not doing enough to stop the cross-border attacks, which it says have killed dozens of members of its security forces.

There has been little sympathy from the U.S. and Afghan governments however, which have long complained Pakistan allows sanctuary to militants fighting in Afghanistan, warning Islamabad that instability in the war-torn country poses a threat to it as well.

On Thursday, Taliban gunmen opened fire on a compound in eastern Pakistan housing police trainees, killing nine of them, officials said.

The militants who staged the cross-border attack appeared to be targeting members of an anti-Taliban militia in Kitkot village near Pakistan's Bajur tribal area, said Tariq Khan, a local government official. They came from Afghanistan's Kunar province and took hundreds of villagers hostage, including anti-Taliban militiamen, he said.

Hundreds of Pakistani soldiers surrounded the village and killed 12 militants, Khan added. Two militiamen were also killed in the fighting.

Soldiers have retrieved scores of villagers, but dozens more are still held by the militants or trapped in their homes by the fighting, said Khan and two security officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media.

The army called in gunship helicopters for support but have not used them yet for fear of civilian casualties, said Khan.

The information could not be independently verified because the area is largely off-limits to reporters. The police targeted in the eastern city of Lahore were training to become prison guards, said Habibur Rehman, the chief of police in Punjab province, where Lahore is the capital.

Pakistani Taliban spokesman Ahsanullah Ahsan claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it was revenge for police torture of their fighters in prison. He spoke to The Associated Press by telephone from an undisclosed location.

In addition to the police who were killed, eight were also wounded, said Salman Saddiq, a government official.

One of the wounded, Shafqat Imran, said that eight to 10 attackers, who had their faces hidden behind hoods, stormed into the compound and started shooting randomly. They shouted "God is great," then shot the policemen one by one, said Imran, speaking from a hospital bed.

The police who were attacked were recruited from northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, a one-time base for the Taliban, and were brought to Lahore for training, said Rehman.

The Pakistani military launched a massive offensive against the Taliban in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Swat Valley in 2009, and many militants were captured and imprisoned.

The leader of the Taliban in Swat, Maulana Fazlullah, escaped and is believed to be based in eastern Afghanistan, where he has been sending fighters back across the border to attack northwest Pakistan.

The Pakistani Taliban have killed thousands of soldiers, police and civilians over the past few years, declaring war on the government to get it to break ties with the United States and establish Islamic law throughout the country.

The government is also facing a decades-long insurgency by nationalists in southwest Baluchistan province who demand greater autonomy and a larger share of the province's natural resources.

AP

Pakistan's police commandos stand outside a house attacked by gunmen in Lahore, Pakistan on Thursday, July 12, 2012.

UN refugee chief rejects call to resettle Rohingya

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees on Thursday rejected a suggestion by Myanmar's president that the world body resettle or take care of ethnic Rohingyas who have settled in the Southeast Asian country.

UNHCR chief Antonio Guterres told reporters it was not his agency's job to resettle the Rohingya, who live in western Myanmar but without Myanmar citizenship.

On his website, President Thein Sein said he told Guterres in a meeting Wednesday that the solution to ethnic enmity in Myanmar's western Rakhine state was to either send the Rohingya to a third country or have the UNHCR look after them.

Clashes last month between Buddhist Rakhines and Muslin Rohingya left at least 78 people dead and tens of thousands homeless. The Rakhine consider the Rohingya to be illegal immigrants from neighboring Bangladesh.

Thein Sein described the violence at the time as a threat to the democratic and economic reforms his government launched after decades of repressive rule by a military junta.

"The resettlement programs organized by UNHCR are for refugees who are fleeing a country to another, in very specific circumstances. Obviously, it's not related to this situation," said Guterres.

Thein Sein's reported suggestion to Guterres left unclear exactly how many people he had in mind. The U.N. estimates there are about 800,000 Rohingya in Myanmar. The count includes people of Bengali heritage who settled centuries ago, as well as people who may have entered the country in recent decades.

Many people in Myanmar don't recognize as legitimate settlers even those of Bengali heritage who came in the 19th century, when Myanmar was under British rule and called Burma.

Large exoduses of Rohingya to Bangladesh in the 1980s and 1990s because of persecution, and their subsequent return, also add to the confusion over who is an illegal immigrant.

Thein Sein told Guterres that according to Myanmar law, those Bengalis who settled in Myanmar before the country gained independence from Britain in 1948 and their children are regarded as citizens. However, post-independence immigrants are officially considered illegal and threatening to the country's stability.

Rain causes flooding, mudslides in Japan; 15 dead

TOKYO (AP)—Heavy rain triggered flash floods and mudslides in southern Japan on Thursday, causing at least 15 deaths and leaving 11 more people missing.

Television footage showed residents wading through muddy, knee-deep water on streets. Others shoveled out mud from their homes.

Local officials said damage was concentrated in Kumamoto and neighboring Oita states on Japan's southern island of Kyushu. Most victims were in their 70s and 80s.

Hundreds of homes were destroyed or damaged, and tens of thousands of people had to evacuate the area threatened by swollen rivers and mudslides.

The Meteorological Agency said as much as 50 centimeters (20 inches) of rain fell overnight. It predicted up to 20 centimeters (8 inches) of rainfall through Friday.

Rescue workers and defense troops have been sent to the region to help. Some residents trapped in inundated areas were airlifted by helicopters.

The heavy rains also disrupted local train services, blocked off roads and left about 22,000 homes without electricity.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Clinton says NKorea nuke pursuit threatens world

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton says North Korea's pursuit of nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles and "pattern of provocations" are a serious threat to Asian and world security. North Korea released a statement later Thursday at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' annual conference in Cambodia saying Washington's "never-ending nuclear threat" against the North has forced Pyongyang to build atomic weapons. Animosity runs high after a North Korean rocket launch in April that Washington and Seoul call a cover for a banned long-range missile test. North Korea says it was a satellite launch attempt.

Hong Kong tycoons, ex-official charged with graft

HONG KONG (AP)—Billionaire brothers Thomas and Raymond Kwok and three other people have been charged in a graft case alleging that the prominent developers gave bribes in exchange for lucrative information on pending land sales. Also charged Friday by Hong Kong's Independent Commission Against Corruption are former Chief Secretary Rafael Hui, a former senior officer of Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing, and an executive director of Sun Hung Kai Properties, which the Kwok brothers co-chair. Hui is alleged to have provided land sale information to the Kwoks between 2005 and 2007. The three were arrested in March, and they were to appear in court Friday to answer charges of bribery and misconduct in public office. Trading in Sun Hung Kai shares was suspended shortly after the Hong Kong stock market opened Friday.

Thailand, Cambodia investigate jet incident

BANGKOK (AP)—Authorities in Thailand and Cambodia are investigating reports that Cambodian troops fired on a Bangkok Airways passenger jet after mistaking it for a spy plane. A senior Thai army officer says Cambodians opened fire as the plane circled the border region in bad weather this week. He spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the subject. There were no reports of damage. Thailand's Foreign Minister Surapong Tovijakchaikul denies the reports. Cambodian Col. Seng Phearin said Friday that forces fired 18 gunshots into the air, but the aircraft was military and not civilian. Bangkok Airways says it received no reports of an aircraft coming under fire. Thailand and Cambodia have often had tense relations over a disputed border region, with the situation sometimes turning violent.

World

Activists: Massacre in Syria kills more than 100

BEIRUT (AP)—Syrian activists reported a new massacre late Thursday in the central Hama province, saying regime forces killed more than 100 people in shelling and other attacks.

There were few details on the attack, which was reported by the Local Coordination Committees activist group and the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

The Observatory said it was aware of up to 100 killed from sources on the ground, but the group had only confirmed the names of 30 people so far.

Death tolls are nearly impossible to independently verify in Syria, where the government restricts journalists and where more than a year of violence has convulsed much of the country.

There were few details of the violence in Hama's Tremseh area.

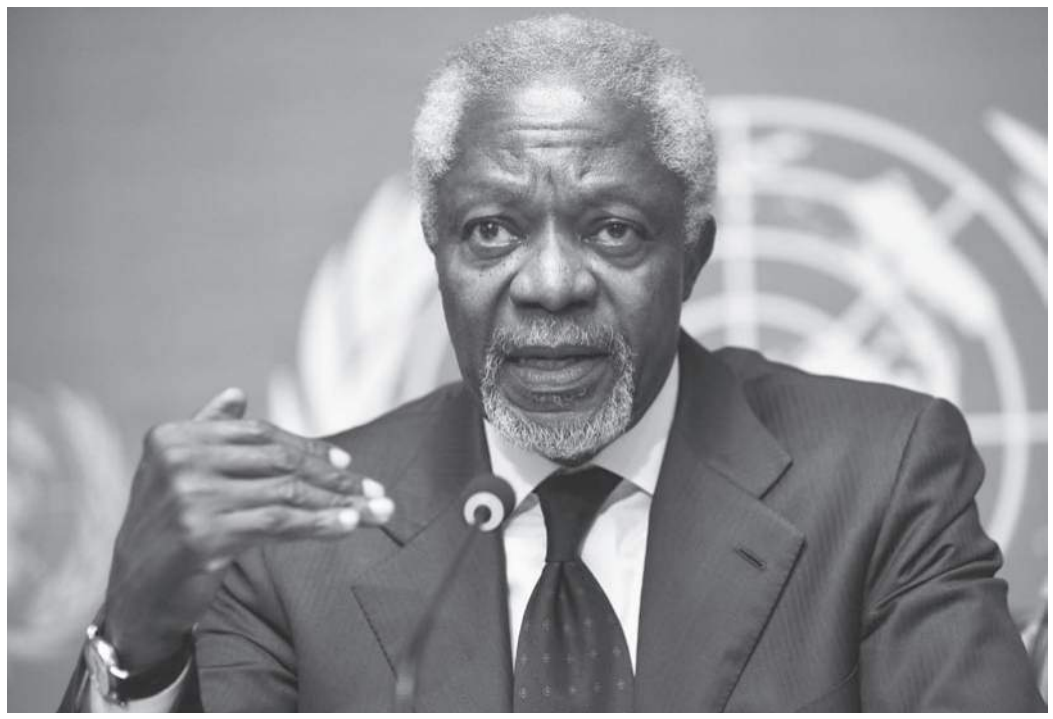
Activists say more than 17,000 people have been killed since the uprising against President Bashar Assad began in March 2011, and he is coming under growing international pressure to stop the violence. But as the bloodshed continues, and the conflict morphs into an armed insurgency, hopes for a peaceful transition are dimming.

The latest report of violence came in the wake of the highest-level defector yet from President Bashar Assad's regime—his ambassador to Iraq.

Defections from the Syrian regime have stirred hopes in the West Assad's inner circle will start abandoning him in greater numbers, hastening his downfall.

But the tightly protected regime has largely held together over the course of the 16-month-old uprising, driven by a mixture of fear and loyalty.

The latest official to flee, Ambassador Nawaf Fares, announced that he was joining the revolution, asserting Thursday that only force will drive Assad from power.



AP

In this Saturday, June 30, 2012 file photo, Kofi Annan, Joint Special Envoy of the United Nations and the Arab League for Syria speaks during a news conference following the Action Group on Syria meeting in the Palace of Nations, at the United Nations' Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

"There is no road map ever with Bashar Assad, because any plan, any statement that is agreed on internationally he delays on and ignores," Fares told the Al-Jazeera satellite channel. "There is no way that he can be pushed from power without force, and the Syrian people realize this."

Syria's Foreign Ministry denounced Fares, saying he should face "legal and disciplinary accountability."

In Washington, State Department spokesman Patrick Ventrell hailed what he called the "first major diplomatic defection," adding: "We think this a wider sign that the regime is feeling the pressure. The pressure is up and the regime is really starting to fall apart."

Fares is the second prominent Syrian to break with the regime in less than a week. Brig. Gen. Manaf Tlass, an Assad confidant and son of a former defense minister, defected last week, but has not spoken publicly.

French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius said Tlass has been in contact with the Syrian opposition. He would not comment on reports that Tlass was in Paris.

"I know that there is some closeness between the opposition and the general... Contact has been made," Fabius told journalists in Paris.

Assad's regime has suffered a steady stream of low-level army defectors, who have joined a group of dissidents known as the Free Syrian Army, now numbering in the tens of thousands. There have been several high-level defections in the past—including a Syrian fighter pilot who flew his plane to neighboring Jordan during a training mission in June in a brazen move.

Although the defections are notable, Assad's regime has remained remarkably airtight, particularly compared with the hemorrhaging of Moammar Gadhafi's inner circle in Libya in 2011.

Within weeks of the Libyan revolt, a number of Libyan ambassadors and other high-ranking officials quit the government, and many joined the opposition leadership. The early defection of huge sections of the army in eastern Libya gave the rebel movement a safe zone where they could freely organize their political and military strategies.

Russia opposes UN *sanctions on Syria*

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Russia said Thursday it will oppose a new U.N. resolution on Syria that is militarily enforceable, setting up another confrontation with Western nations over how to end the escalating 16-month conflict in the pivotal Middle East nation.

Russia and Britain have circulated rival texts for a new Security Council resolution addressing the future of the 300-strong U.N. observer force in Syria whose mandate expires on July 20 and the failure of international envoy Kofi Annan's six-point peace plan.

The U.N. sent the unarmed observers to Syria for 90 days to oversee the cessation of violence and monitor implementation of Annan's plan but the team was forced to withdraw from key conflict areas because of escalating fighting.

The Western-backed British draft threatens non-military sanctions against President Bashar Assad's government if it doesn't withdraw troops and heavy weapons from population centers within 10 days—a key plank in Annan's plan. The proposed resolution, however, would be under Chapter 7 of the U.N. Charter which covers actions the world body can take to deal with threats to peace and conflicts and can be enforced militarily.

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton told reporters Thursday that in her latest telephone call with Annan on Wednesday, she offered her support for his latest efforts on resolving the crisis in Syria.

Clinton said she was encouraged that Annan was asking for a Security Council resolution that not only would endorse his transition plan but also would punish the Syrian government for noncompliance.

"The Assad regime will not do anything without additional further pressure," said told reporters in Phnom Penh, where she was attending a conference on Southeast Asian affairs.

Russia's deputy U.N. ambassador Alexander Pankin told reporters Thursday that they were opposed to the use of military force.

"We are definitely against Chapter 7," Pankin said. "Anything can be negotiated, but we do not negotiate this, this is a red line."

Russia and China, key allies of Assad and veto-wielding council members, have blocked repeated attempts by the United States and its European allies to even threaten "consequences"—a diplomatic code word for sanctions.

The Russian draft resolution calls for the "immediate implementation" of the Annan peace plan and the guidelines for a political transition approved at a meeting in Geneva last month. It makes no mention of sanctions but says the council will assess implementation and "consider further steps as appropriate."

US to Iraq: Review case of acquitted militant

BAGHDAD (AP)—The White House has asked Iraq to review the case of a Hezbollah commander who was accused of masterminding a 2007 attack that killed five American soldiers or hand him over to the United States, a senior Obama administration official said Thursday, though two Iraqi courts have declared him not guilty.

The case is a tricky aftermath of the long U.S. military campaign in Iraq that ended last year and has elements of both Iraqi and U.S. internal politics.

Ali Mussa Daqduq has been released from prison but is being held under house arrest in Baghdad's heavily-fortified Green Zone as Washington considers bringing U.S. charges against him. Daqduq, a Lebanese citizen, is considered a top threat to Americans in the Middle East and was detained for more than four years by the U.S. military before it left Iraq last December.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Antony J. Blinken, the national security adviser to Vice President Joe Biden, said the U.S. wants to keep Ali Mussa Daqduq locked up for as long as legally possible.

Blinken said the Obama administration also will file a request on behalf of the victims' families for Iraq's highest appeals court to review and correct its June 25 order to free Daqduq. But he said the U.S. asked to extradite Daqduq even before the final court ruling declaring him not guilty.

"The process has not concluded," Blinken said Thursday. "It is still ongoing."

He said the White House has consistently urged Baghdad to use any legal means to prosecute and detain Daqduq "for the crimes he committed on Iraqi soil, including any crimes against U.S. service-members."

"And that has been a constant message," Blinken said.

Abdul-Sattar Bayrkdar, spokesman for Iraq's Supreme Judicial Council said the appeals court ruling is final and there are no charges pending against Daqduq. Ali al-Moussawi, media adviser to Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, said he was unaware of any U.S. request to extradite Daqduq.

The U.S. believes Daqduq plotted a brazen 2007 raid on a military camp in the holy Iraqi city of Karbala that killed five American soldiers. He is accused of working with Iranian agents to train Shiite militias to target the U.S. military.

A debate between the Democratic White House and Republicans in Congress over whether high-risk terror suspects should be brought to the U.S. for trial stalled the case against Daqduq last year. He was handed over to Iraqi authorities as required when American troops left Iraq.

Since then, two Iraqi courts have cleared Daqduq of the terrorism and forgery charges that Iraq's government lodged against him. Iraqi government officials acknowledge they have little, if any, legal basis for continuing to detain him.

U.S. auditors estimate American taxpayers have spent about $10 billion since 2003 to rebuild and strengthen Iraq's justice system after decades of abuse under deposed dictator Saddam Hussein. Releasing Daqduq now, however, would crimp White House efforts in the run-up to the U.S. elections this fall to show that President Barack Obama aggressively pursues terrorists.

"The judiciary system said its final say: that he's innocent and needs to be released," said Daqduq's attorney, Abdul-Mahdi al-Mitairi, a political follower of the anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr.

WORLD BRIEFS

Chilean hate-crime legislation signed into law

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)—Chile's president signed an anti-discrimination law Thursday following the killing of a gay man beaten by attackers who carved swastikas into his body. The law was approved in May after being stuck in Congress for seven years. President Sebastian Pinera had urged lawmakers to speed its approval after the slaying of Daniel Zamudio in March set off a national debate about hate crimes in Chile. Zamudio was found beaten and mutilated in a city park, with swastikas carved into his body. The U.N. human rights office had urged Chile to pass legislation against hate crimes and discrimination after the killing. Many people in Chile refer to the new measure, which enables people to file anti-discrimination lawsuits and adds hate-crime sentences for violent crimes, as the Zamudio law.

9 dead in Mont Blanc summer avalanche

CHAMONIX, France (AP)—They set out before dawn, hoping to conquer a mountaineering classic: Mont Blanc, Western Europe's highest peak. But below the prized summit, a climber is believed to have accidentally caused a slab of ice to snap off, triggering an avalanche Thursday that swept nine climbers to their deaths and injured a dozen others. As the sheet of snow and ice thundered down the steep slope, several other climbers managed to turn away from the slide in time, regional authorities in Haute-Savoie said. Two climbers were rescued as emergency crews using dogs and helicopters scoured the churned-up, high-altitude area in a frantic search for the missing. Three Britons, three Germans, two Spaniards and one Swiss climber were among the dead.

Young Style

Young India golfers take swings at poverty

By MARK MAGNIER
LOS ANGELES TIMES

(MARK MAGNIER/LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT)
Neighborhood youngsters in the Majhartaala slum in Kolkata, India, hit a golf ball in a makeshift green amid the dirt and garbage. Pro golfer Indrajit Bhalotia's charitable works have helped bring disadvantaged youths to the game.

KOLKATA, India—Fourteen-year-old Mohan Sardar lives with his sister and parents in a one-room shanty barely larger than the bed they all share, near a swamp filled with human waste, dead animals and floating plastic.

When he was in the fifth grade, Mohan dropped out of school because his family couldn't afford the fees. At loose ends, he often walked two miles to the Royal Calcutta Golf Club—"the Royal" to members—scrambling atop a wall and marveling at the vast green expanse and wealthy players.

Founded by the British in 1829, the golf course features the Signature clubhouse, where continental grilled prawns for two cost what would be a week's wages for Mohan's father. A nearby notice board asks members to use colored towels for their feet, white for their bodies, and a motivational banner reads: "Uncap the Bold and Beautiful Spirit."

One day Mohan befriended a golfer, asking whether he needed a caddy. He earned $1.50 the first day, gave most of it to his mother, and they ate fish that night. "It was brilliant," he said.

The golfer's coach started giving Mohan pointers and he was soon playing the occasional round of a sport that enjoys a particularly elite status in India, especially among nouveau riche Indians clamoring to mark their arrival.

Today, Mohan, a lanky boy with short hair and deep-set eyes, has a golf handicap of three and is among India's top five junior players.

■■■■

Among the 3 million or so charities operating in India, "golf for the destitute" wouldn't exactly top the list of pressing social needs.

The way pro golfer Indrajit Bhalotia sees it, however, offering hope of a life-changing career for a few has a place alongside meeting the temporary needs of multitudes.

Bhalotia, 40, confident and understated, born into a well-off family, started playing golf at 4. He became India's top-ranked player in 1990 and founded ProTouch Golf Academy, selling equipment, apparel and lessons to the well-heeled.

During a slump in 1998, hoping to get his winning form back, he pledged 10 percent of his future winnings to charity. Eventually he decided that wasn't enough, that anyone could give money but he needed to do more.

"Golf's been very good to me," he said recently at the Royal. "It's the least I could do. There was karma for me in this."

He started recruiting impoverished children through Ek Prayaas, a Kolkata charity, and among the club's caddies. A lifetime spent whacking small white balls allowed him to spot aptitude within minutes of their first swing.

"Sure, I might miss one Tiger Woods," he said. "But out of five, I can pick out four."

Using ProTouch instructors, he's coaching 20 underprivileged children with plans for 80 more. With help from some wealthy friends, Bhalotia covers equipment and travel expenses for the most promising youngsters to compete on the junior circuit, ages 10 to 15. They are all boys at this point although one girl is learning quickly and could soon join their ranks. One of the boys qualified for the Callaway Junior World Golf Championships in San Diego this week.

Their school fees are also covered, with expenses amounting to about $2,000 annually for each of the children, including Mohan, who returned to school after three years away. The caveat: The children must contribute some modest amount themselves to ensure that they value the program.

"There are five to seven kids I can take on to even win the U.S. Open," Bhalotia said.

Because they're so hungry to escape crippling poverty, they work much harder than silver-spoon youngsters, said Bhalotia, who confesses that he tears up whenever one wins a tournament.

For producing young champions, ProTouch also receives favorable publicity.

"I don't want to sound like I'm Mother Teresa," Bhalotia said.

Some Indians say the money could be better spent elsewhere.

"I think it's better to give 1,000 kids food than make one a golfer," said Geeta Kharb, a designer from Noida, outside New Delhi, whose teenage son plays golf. "And look at the water these places waste."

For the kids in Bhalotia's program, perfecting their shots is easier than bridging the social divide with members of the Royal, which allows them to use its course during off-peak times.

Golf is an extremely rarefied sport in India, with just 200 courses—California has 1,140—only one or two public courses nationwide and a 10-to-25-year waiting list to join exclusive private clubs.

"Many are like palaces, very intimidating to the common man," said Vivek Mehta, country head at Callaway Golf India. "And those who play are probably among the richest players in the world. There's a lot of spending capacity, and they like to flaunt it."

Just outside the Royal's gates, Manohar Purkait, who's in his 60s, sells hard candy and cigarette singles from a rickety kiosk, his "retirement plan" after decades scraping by as a caddy. "Out here, I'm free," he said. "Inside, I barely feel free to speak."

To avoid seeing the youngsters humiliated, Bhalotia schools them in table manners and ensures that they're well-dressed.

"He taught me to use a fork and spoon," said Mohan, who prefers eating with his hands, as do many Indians. "I can do it, but it's not comfortable."

Although some Royal members no doubt wish the youngsters weren't there, fear of unfavorable publicity probably prevents them from ending the program. Bhalotia said he's careful to keep the number of youngsters down and their profile low.

"They're not allowed to come to the clubhouse, so the members don't get concerned," said M.M. Singh, the club's chief executive.

■■■■

Back at Mohan's Majhartaala slum, ringed with shacks of twisted metal and scrounged bricks, word of his success has inspired neighborhood youngsters who were busy recently putting a battered golf ball across the uneven dirt, careful not to lose it in the swamp water.

Mohan's parents, subsistence farmers from a village south of Kolkata, migrated here when he was 2 looking for a better life. Today, his father earns $45 a month pedaling a rickshaw 12 hours a day.

They live in a smaller house amid more pollution than they had in the village. But there's a sense of community here, Mohan's parents say, more opportunity for their children and a lot less backbiting.

Just outside their house—the bed and dresser all but fill the 8-by-8-foot room ringed by palm-leaf walls bearing images of Hindu gods in cheap frames—several young laborers played cards after work as dusk approached, their boombox blaring dance music.

Elementary school student Pinku Das walked by with a putter resting on his shoulder. "I've been playing for two years," the 8-year-old said. "I want to be a professional caddy someday."

Since Mohan caught Bhalotia's eye, he has played in nine tournaments, finishing fourth of 40 at a Bangalore event in May.

The proteges take inspiration from several emerging if not yet top-tier Indian golf pros, including Jeev Milkha Singh, Arjun Atwal and Jyoti Randhawa, who each have chalked up more than $6 million in international prize money. (The most famous golfer of Indian descent, longtime PGA Tour mainstay Vijay Singh, is a native of Fiji.)

Bhalotia describes Mohan as "quiet and reserved, but extremely confident on the golf course." And Mohan says of his game: "Whenever I see a ball, I get an overwhelming urge to blast it."

Before each tournament, Mohan touches his father's feet to receive his blessing. He aches at the thought of his father pedaling on tired legs as he heads to hotels with rooms bigger than their house.

"It breaks my heart seeing my father pulling a rickshaw in all kinds of weather," he said. "He always wishes me good luck, never complaining that I am wasting my time playing games."

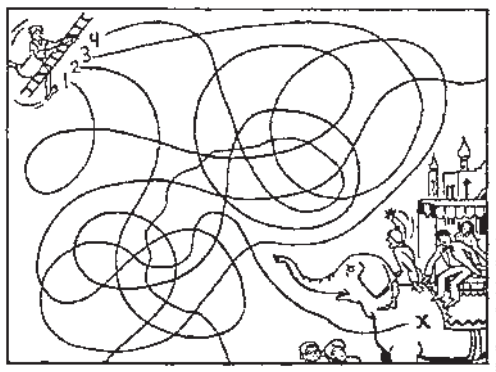
Neighbors caution against unrealistic expectations, but Mohan dreams of turning pro and winning big money, buying a house and paying for his sister's wedding, traditionally an Indian family's biggest expense.

His parents exude pride.

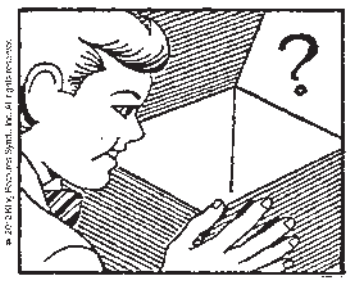
"I've never seen a course and have no idea about golf," said his father, Asit Sardar, 38, wearing a traditional skirt-like dhoti. "But I'd love to see him play one day. All our hopes rest on him."

Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman



HURRY CALL! Hurry, our elephant-rider friends are in need of a ladder. Which path from top left leads to the scene?

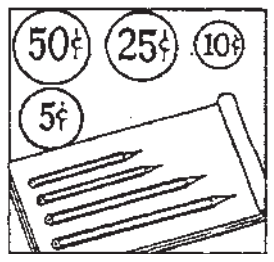


ZANY POEM! To half a dozen, add half a score, and you will plainly see. Just twenty, neither less nor more — do tell, how can this be? See if you can puzzle it out.

TWE (half of twelve) plus NTY (half of twenty) spells TWENTY.

SUM LENGTHS! Send a friend from the room. Place several coins upon the table and ask someone to point to a coin. Call back your friend, provide pencil and paper and ask him or her to jot down the identity of the selected coin. Alakazam, the answer is always correct. How come?

Secret: Answer is keyed to length of the pencil. Tie-in to coins is devised and memorized prior to performance of the trick. Give it a try.



PICK A PARTNER BOXING MATCH

THERE'S a box for this and a box for that listed below. And there's a companion list of box-related "partners." How quickly can you match lists?

1. Sandbox	panelist
2. Mailbox	writer
3. Soapbox	bandit
4. Jury box	angler
5. Shoe box	voter
6. Press box	gardener
7. Hatbox	realtor
8. Tackle box	toddler
9. Flower box	postman
10. Saltbox	orator
11. Strongbox	cobbler
12. Ballot box	milliner

Note: Each box is to have just one partner.

Time limit: 2 minutes.

1. toddler. 2. postman. 3. orator. 4. panelist. 5. cobbler. 6. writer. 7. milliner. 8. angler. 9. gardener. 10. realtor. 11. bandit. 12. voter.

Strange BUT TRUE

by Samantha Weaver

■ It was German-American painter and lithographer Herm Albright who made the following sage observation: "A positive attitude may not solve all your problems, but it will annoy enough people to make it worth the effort."

■ It's well-known that there were shortages of many items during World War II—and caffeine was one. It was such a problem, in fact, that the chemists at Coca-Cola tried to find a substitute, even experimenting with a derivative of bat guano. The idea was nixed by an executive who was afraid of the public backlash if the truth ever came out.

■ Just as a group of birds is called a flock, a group of frogs is called an army.

■ Ever wonder why a barber pole has red and white stripes? It's a rather grisly tale. At one time barbers did more than cut hair; they sometimes performed marriages and baptisms, served as dentists and even performed surgery. When engaged in the medical work, any excess blood was soaked up by white towels, which were often hung up on a pole outside to dry. As the wind wrapped the towel around the pole, it created a design of red and white stripes.

■ The 1982 film "Gandhi," which was awarded eight Oscars, including the one for best picture, used a whopping 300,000 extras.

■ Toilet paper was first introduced in the United States in 1857, but the idea didn't take off—the paper being offered was evidently too much like the paper in the Sears catalog, which is what most people used at the time.

■ The most popular perfume in the world is Chanel No. 5.

■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "Always forgive your enemies, but never forget their names."—Robert Kennedy

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MAGIC MAZE ● BAGGY WORDS

X E R O L I E B Y V S Q N K H
E B G Y W T R O L G N J G E B
Y W C A R P E T B A G U R P N
K I G D G B Z T M B X V S E Q
O M K I G G G G T Y G E L P C
A Y W U A A A S Q E L P U I N
L J H B B B B B F N U E F P E
C A A N D T D D E O Y G G G X
V E A E U I N S N M Q P A A N
S E E M K K A J H A A F B B B
B F E C B Z S D A D H G A B Y

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Bagel	Bagman	Carpetbag	Kitbag
Bagful	Bagpipe	Feedbag	Moneybag
Baggage	Baguette	Gamebag	Sandbag
Baghdad	Beanbag	Handbag	

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	÷		+		10
−		×		−	
	×		−		26
×		−		×	
	×		+		19
10		15		1	

1 2 3 4 6 7 8 9 9

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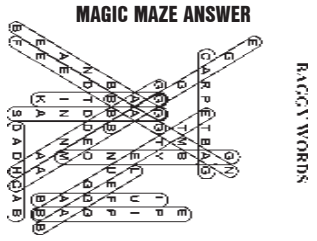
MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



GO FIGURE ANSWER

9	÷	3	+	7	10
−		×		−	
4	×	8	−	6	26
×		−		×	
2	×	9	+	1	19
10		15		1	

Lavender may calm hyperactive dogs

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I read on an Internet forum that lavender can help calm nervous and hyperactive dogs. Is this the case? I know that some plants are toxic to pets.—Jenna C., Los Angeles

Paw's corner by Sam Mazzotta

DEAR JENNA: Lavender, or the scent of lavender, has been touted as a natural way to help calm down dogs. Experts advocating natural treatments recommend placing a few drops of the essential oil on a cloth, a favorite blanket or a cotton ball and placing it near the dog. (Make sure your dog doesn't ingest it.) I've seen recommendations to place the essential oil directly on a dog's coat, but this can cause skin irritation, so you should avoid that.

For cats, however, lavender is a more dangerous proposition. Ingesting the essential oil or accidentally getting it on their skin can cause stomach upset and, in larger doses, liver toxicity.

It's true that some plants, including herbs, are dangerous for both dogs and cats. Lily plants should not be in a house with cats, as they are very poisonous. Eucalyptus plants and essential oil should be kept away from pets; the plant leaves can cause vomiting if ingested, and the oil can make cats quite ill.

A list of plants that are poisonous for cats and dogs can be found at earthclinic.com. Before bringing a new plant into the house or before applying an herbal or aromatherapy remedy to your pet, do your homework to make sure it's not toxic. Your veterinarian also can provide expert advice on herbs and plants to avoid.

■ ■ ■

Send your questions or comments to ask@pawscorner.com, or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. For more pet care-related advice and information, visit www.pawscorner.com.

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Slurp and savor tasty mango salsa

Donna's Day Creative family fun by Donna Erickson

"The mangoes are falling," chanted a chorus of excited young schoolkids in Haitian Creole while I navigated a rocky, muddy path in Haiti recently as a program volunteer with global health organization Medical Teams International (www.medicalteams.org). Sure enough, within seconds, a large, rosy-red and orange mango from a canopy of trees overhead landed with a thud right next to me.

I quickly learned the kids' way of biting into the outer skin (after I washed it), removing it with my fingers and then devouring the fruit slurp by slurp, first one half and then the other. There's nothing quite as delicious as a tree-ripened mango.

Now in season, beautiful vitamin- and mineral-rich mangoes are available at our local stores at reasonable prices. At snack time, remove the peel with a sharp knife and serve your kids long slices or chunks on a plate. Add other tropical fruits such as pineapple and papaya for additional authentic tastes of the Caribbean.

For a highlight at your next barbecue, dice a mango and toss together with easy-to-find summer ingredients for this fresh and tangy mango salsa. It's delicious as an accompaniment to grilled chicken breasts or fish such as halibut and salmon. Serve it as a side, or spoon it on top of the chicken and fish. It's yummy with grilled shrimp, too.

FRESH AND TANGY MANGO SALSA

1 large, ripe mango, peeled, pitted and diced (about 1 1/2 cups)
1/2 medium red onion, chopped
1 clove garlic, minced
1 small jalapeno pepper, seeded and chopped (see note below)
1 small red bell pepper, seeded and chopped
2 tablespoons fresh cilantro, chopped
1/4 cup fresh lime juice
3 tablespoons orange juice
Salt and cracked pepper to taste

In a mixing bowl, gently toss together all ingredients. Serve fresh. Keeps for one day. Makes about 4 to 6 servings.

Variations: Add a diced avocado.

Note: The juice of jalapeno peppers can be irritating. Wear plastic deli-style gloves when handling. Avoid hand contact with your eyes.

■ ■ ■

Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit www.donnasday.com and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."

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Good Housekeeping

THIS IS A HAMMER

Leak Stop in a Can?

By SAMANTHA MAZZOTTA
KING FEATURES SYND., INC..

Q: I've seen ads for a spray-on leak fixer that's advertised for leaky gutters, damaged shingles and other problem areas. What's your take on this? Should I order a can?—Jerry in Sedona, Ariz.

A: My first thought about this kind of fix-all product is that it may be a great help as a temporary patch, but a damaged gutter or shingle eventually will need to be fixed properly. And major damage, such as a ripped or cracked gutter, probably won't hold up long with a spray-on patch.

I haven't tried the product in question, so I could, of course, be wrong about its capabilities. However, there are other spray-on rubber brands available at hardware and home-improvement stores. None that I've seen claim to fix leaks and large cracks; they're advertised as sealants and as spray-on nonslip surfacing. They also cost much less, on average, than the product being advertised on television, especially with the cost of shipping and handling removed.

If you decide to purchase the product, I'd say it would likely work best as a sealant for gaps around things like air conditioning ducts and where pipes emerge from the wall. Using it to patch areas or objects that bear weight—like the joints between gutter sections, cracks in a deck's wood flooring and so on—is probably not a good use for the product. For patching the roof, I'd be very careful about using it: Eventually, a leaky area of the roof will need more permanent repairs. Replacement of damaged shingles or flashing, as well as repair of the damaged area, could be hindered, not helped, by the presence of spray-on rubber.

home tip

HOME TIP: Need to mark the location of a leak so you can find it while on the rooftop? In the attic, locate where the water is coming in and drive a 10-penny nail upward so that it pushes up the shingle above.

ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION/MCT
Andersen ArcA folding patio door is part of manufacturer Andersen's line of architectural patio doors that come in custom sizes up to 48 feet wide and 10 feet tall.

Opening the door to a new look

By LORI JOHNSTON
THE ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION

Homeowners shouldn't be closed-minded when it comes to interior doors. Doors are vital parts of homes under construction or undergoing makeovers, thanks to builders and interior designers, who are paying close attention to how doors separate spaces and add architectural appeal. "Doors are becoming a feature in the home," said Donna Mathis, owner of Suwanee, Ga.-based DMD Studios.

SOARING TALL

Door heights are expanding, and the use of 8-foot doors in single-family homes and condos can add to the grandeur of residences.

"Over and over again, (buyers) want 8-foot doors within the main level," said Jennifer Crosby, owner of Atlanta-based Crosby Design Group.

Traditionally, homes and condos use doors that extend 6 feet 8 inches, but taller doors dramatically improve the look of the space, builders and designers say. People notice the difference.

"Instead of having this expansive space between the top of your door frame and the ceiling height, it makes your home look bigger and more stately," said Art Rountree, operations director for Kairos Development Corp., which installed 8-foot solid wood core doors (versus hollow-core doors) at the Astoria at the Aramore in Buckhead.

Designers say three-panel doors are in demand and fit the transitional style of homes. Door manufacturers are coming out with these options, which create cleaner lines, instead of the traditional six-panel door, Mathis said.

FREE-FLOWING SPACES

Traditional doors that swing out or in can take up valuable space. Some door decisions are focused on open space and creating a flow for entertaining and everyday living, causing people to consider pocket doors, folding doors.

"We like doors to disappear. So when they're closed, they're closed, and when they're open, they don't exist," said architect Jose Tavel, co-owner of TaC Studios in Atlanta.

ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION/MCT
JELD-WEN's red oak pocket door adds style while reducing sound transmission between rooms, outfitted with the manufacturer's ProCore the Quiet Door(R) technology.

Pocket doors can separate public and private areas in a home. (Tavel and his wife, architect Cara Cummins, have nine pocket doors in their residence/studio.) The doors can be 8 feet tall, ranging from 36 inches wide to 60 inches wide, almost all are 8 feet tall. (Johnson Hardware and Hafele are two companies they use.)

Pocket doors can work between bedrooms and living areas, living areas and offices, bathrooms, closets and other spots in modern and traditional homes. Tavel says another option is putting a pocket door in a bathroom; in their home, it allows east light into the bathroom in the morning and a view from the tub to the mature white oaks in the backyard.

"I have a lot of requests for pocket doors. Pocket doors have made a comeback," said Maricita Hughes, director of interiors for Isakson Living, creator of retirement communities including Park Springs in Stone Mountain, Ga. "They've come a long way from where they used to be."

People frustrated with pocket doors that went off their tracks may find that today's pocket doors are sturdier and less likely to malfunction. Hughes estimates that pocket doors cost about 30 percent more than traditional doors, but homeowners often are willing to pay when space is at a premium.

TaC Studios recently installed a pocket door between the dining room and a kitchen in a traditional home.

"They would still have a very segregated and closed dining room when they wanted it, but when they wanted it to function as a free flow between their beautiful new kitchen and their dining room, it opens up," Tavel said.

A row of pivot doors also can create an architectural element that can function as a wall when needed.

HEADING OUTDOORS

For patio doors, homeowners can replace a double set of French doors to the outside with stackable, or folding doors, Mathis said.

"It is the whole concept of bringing the outdoors in," she said.

Some manufacturers offer patio doors that retract or fold up, opening up interior rooms such as the family room, breakfast room or keeping room, to the backyard. Manufacturer Andersen's outswing folding patio doors come in 21 colors and seven types of wood, and can be customized up to 48 feet, and open from the right, left or center.

Retractable screen door makers include the Clear View Systems, which work vertically or horizontally and differ from the traditional doors that swing out and can hit furniture and people. Steve Kaplan, owner of Peachtree Blinds of Atlanta, based in Alpharetta, Ga., says more people are seeking retractable doors, with his sales of the doors up 50 percent over last year. (Costs start at $395 for a single door and $775 for a set of French doors.) A speed reducer makes the retractable door safer for children and pets.

"The No. 1 installation area is kitchen/keeping room to deck/patio," he said.

An option for condos is the NanaWall, which can open up a wall spanning 8 or 10 feet wide, Crosby said. Homeowners also can take a cue from restaurants created out of old gas stations. Crosby said a garage door can be used in place of a wall in a basement, to open up the space to the outdoors.

MORE IDEAS FOR DOORS

From the use of glass to painting doors, here's some tips on incorporating style and functionality with your doors:

- A barn door can add an unusual touch, especially in a media room or office, Crosby said. Another idea is to use reclaimed wood for doors; manufacturer JELD-WEN offers custom doors made from Douglas fir that originally was used for barns, fencing, factories and houses.
- Spots such as media rooms are where homeowners can have more fun with doors made of metal or other materials.
- Door colors can vary from subtle, such as matching the baseboard or crown molding, or can add a pop of color. If you have a cream color in the home, Mathis suggests making the doors stand out with black or a charcoal hue. Another trick to enhance the look of a door is by painting the door and trim the same color, with a semi-gloss paint, and the walls the same color, but in a flat paint, Crosby said.
- Frosted glass inserts in doors provide privacy, but keep spaces from being too dark, especially in a windowless bathroom that may be found in older homes or condos. "The way high rises work, there are typically no windows in the bathrooms," Rountree said. "So it's able to let some light into the bedroom to seep into those areas."

ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION/MCT
Pocket doors create a unique entrance into a bathroom.

Life & Style

Steven Tyler exiting as 'American Idol' judge

NEW YORK (AP)—Steven Tyler says he's exiting "American Idol" to put rock `n' roll first.

Tyler said he's leaving the hit show after two seasons to rededicate himself to Aerosmith, the band he fronts. The rock star said he loved every minute on the hit Fox singing contest but added, "it's time to bring rock back."

"After some long ... hard ... thoughts ... I've decided it's time for me to let go of my mistress `American Idol' before she boils my rabbit," Tyler said in a statement, making a joking reference to the 1987 Michael Douglas-Glenn Close thriller "Fatal Attraction."

"I strayed from my first love, Aerosmith, and I'm back—but instead of begging on my hands and knees, I got two fists in the air and I'm kicking the door open with my band."

The band is currently on a nationwide tour with Tyler and has an album due out in the fall.

Tyler

Tyler's "Idol" departure leaves original judge Randy Jackson and Jennifer Lopez, but the singer-actress' future with the show is cloudy.

In a phone interview with The Associated Press as the news about Tyler broke, Lopez said she was saddened to hear that he was leaving.

"I can't even imagine anyone else there right now because I've just spent two years sitting next to him," she said. "I love Steven, and we became close during that time. We were a great support for each other, on an adventure that neither one of us knew what it was going to be. So it's hard to hear that he won't be doing it."

Lopez also said Tyler's departure will play a role in her decision to stay or go. She has already expressed that there is a good likelihood that she will not be back.

"All hope is never lost, not all hope, but at the same time, there are too many things that I need to think about," she said. "I know they want me back, I know that I want to go back, but it's not as simple as that. When I started `Idol' ... I signed on for one year. I didn't even think about doing it for two years, let alone three years. To make the decision to go back a second year was a big deal for me."

The change in the judging panel comes as "Idol" comes off a season of ratings erosion. Its finale, which saw Phillip Phillips crowned as the new "American Idol," drew 21.5 million viewers, the lowest in its 11-season history.

The Fox competition, which started off with Jackson, Simon Cowell and Paula Abdul as judges, has made various judging changes over the years. Ellen DeGeneres joined one season, and songwriter Kara DioGuardi was added as a fourth judge while Cowell and Abdul were still a part of the panel.

The addition of Tyler and Lopez two years ago added fresh star power to a show that, while still a powerhouse, was seeing its audience slowly wane, due to its long tenure and the flood of other talent shows on the TV airwaves.

'Twilight' fans treated to 7-minutes of final film

SAN DIEGO (AP)—About 6,000 fans of "The Twilight Saga" were treated to a surprise look at the first seven minutes of the final film installment, "Breaking Dawn—Part 2," which hits theaters in November.

Many slept overnight for a chance to attend the panel presentation at Comic-Con on Thursday, which featured appearances by the stars of the vampire-romance series, including Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson and Taylor Lautner.

A "Twilight" fan who had camped out since Sunday for a chance to attend the panel was killed Tuesday when she was hit by a car while crossing a street near the San Diego Convention Center. Comic-Con's head of marketing addressed the fans gathered in the convention hall to say he was shocked at the woman's death and said, "our heartfelt condolences, thoughts and prayers go out to her family."

The panel's moderator also began by paying tribute to 53-year-old Gisela Gagliardi of New York, saying she "will always live in our hearts and memories."

But the sadness was quickly replaced by frenzied screams as Stewart, Pattinson, Lautner and fellow cast members Peter Facinelli, Ashley Greene, Nikki Reed, Elizabeth Reaser, Kellan Lutz and series author Stephenie Meyer took the stage.

Director Bill Condon appeared via video from London, where he is recording the score for the film.

"Everyone knows the phenomenon of 'Twilight' really exploded here (at Comic-Con), and we're all aware, too, this is the last time," he said. "Twilight" first inspired a Beatlemania-style response when the cast of the beloved best-seller was introduced at the annual pop-culture convention four years ago.

The opening moments of "Breaking Dawn—Part 2" show Bella Swan (Stewart) adjusting to her new life as a vampire. It was fun for Stewart, too.

"It felt so good to break her in, to see how fast the car goes," she said from the stage after the footage was shown. "'Twilight' vampires are very unique. They're not like all vampires... Everyone's powers are informed by how they were when they were human.

"I love her. I think she's the coolest one, so I had fun doing it."

Reed said she feels like she came of age during the production of the "Twilight" films.

"We were kids when we started this," the 24-year-old actress said. "We're growing into adults and we're all at different places in our lives."

Stewart said appearing with her "Twilight" cast mates for their final Comic-Con panel, "is kind of sad, man."

"This is sad right now, to be honest," she said. "We got to live here, we got to live in this world for such a crazy long period of time compared to the amount of time you usually do, but it feels good. It's like, `Yes we did it. Yes, we finished.'"

Meyer has already moved on. She closed the panel by showing a clip from her latest adapted novel, the sci-fi thriller "The Host."

"The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn—Part 2" opens Nov. 16. Comic-Con continues through Sunday.

Dachshunds dressed for the occasion, Clifford, left, and his cousin Dee Dee, wait to take part in the most expensive wedding for pets Thursday July 12, 2012 in New York.
AP

2 dogs 'wed' at NYC charity extravaganza

NEW YORK (AP)—We double-dog dare you to check this out.

Two dogs "got married" Thursday night at a Manhattan extravaganza to benefit the Humane Society of New York. Bride Baby Hope Diamond, a white Coton de Tulear with black-gray markings, was led down the aisle, resplendent in her canine couture gown.

Her poodle groom, a dapper dude named Chilly Pasternak from Richmond, Va., didn't seem too excited about the whole affair but, never-the-less, went along with the ceremony. Seven year itch, anyone?

After they got hitched, the cuddly couple were presented with a Guinness World Record in the category of most expensive pet wedding at $158,187.26. The luxury goods and services that went into the wedding were all donated. Guests bought tickets for the fundraiser

Baby Hope was adopted by animal welfare activist Wendy Diamond after her beloved Maltese died of cancer last month. Lucky Diamond, a longtime champion of the underdog, was originally cast as the bride. The wedding instead served as a celebration of the life of the little Maltese. Lucky herself held a Guinness Record: The animal most photographed with famous people. She posed with more than 300 celebrities, from "Twilight" actress Kristen Stewart to hip-hop star Snoop Dogg.

No expense was spared for the black-tie gala, held at the Jumeirah Essex House Hotel at Central Park. The "dream team" included a celebrity wedding planner, a "lighting guru" with experience at major museums, and highly touted chefs for the reception, to name just a few.

Since the guests came from more than one species, a company co-owned by Ellen DeGeneres provided a pet food buffet.

"I am not the mother of the bride, since Baby Hope is 56 years old in dog years," Diamond said on her website. "Just call me the Maid of Honor!"

The wedding wasn't 100 percent highbrow. It was officiated by Triumph the Insult Comic Dog.

Rolling Stones celebrate 50 years on stage

LONDON (AP)—It's only rock `n' roll, but the Rolling Stones definitely like it.

The band celebrated the 50th anniversary of its first gig at a bash in London Thursday, and despite being well over retirement age, the Stones have no plans to quit.

"All of this has sort of brought us back together, and we'll see what comes out of it," said guitarist Keith Richards, who revealed that the Stones have begun rehearsing for new live shows that could come later this year.

It all means Jagger may need to rethink the words he sang more than 45 years ago in "Mother's Little Helper"—"What a drag it is getting old."

The group is marking its half-century with no letup in its productivity or rock `n ` roll style. At 68, Jagger is still the cool, rich frontman of the world's most successful rock band.

Now in their late 60s and early 70s, the band members celebrated the anniversary by attending a retrospective photo exhibition at London's Somerset House.

Jagger, Richards, Ronnie Wood and Charlie Watts mingled with a mixed crowd of rockers, writers and hangers-on—from Simply Red singer Mick Hucknall to playwright Tom Stoppard—at a launch party for the exhibition.

The show, which opens to the public Friday, charts the band's career from their first official photo shoot in 1963—young mop tops lined up against a row of red phone boxes—to their monster `80s and `90s stadium tours.

"You can see when you look at the photos how we couldn't give a hoot about anything," Jagger said with rock `n `roll pride. "You can just sort of tell by the attitude of those photographs how we didn't care."

Jagger spoke to the Associated Press 50 years to the day after the young R&B band played London's Marquee Club. Taking a name from a song by bluesman Muddy Waters, they were billed as "The Rollin' Stones" -the `g' came later.

The lineup for the gig was vocalist Jagger, guitarists Richards and Brian Jones, bassist Dick Taylor, pianist Ian Stewart and Mick Avory on drums. Taylor and Avory soon left the lineup, while Stewart switched to a backup role; drummer Watts joined in 1963 and guitarist Wood in 1975.

The band had its first hit, a cover of Chuck Berry's "Come On," in 1963, and soon became one of the world's biggest and most influential rock acts, rivaled only by The Beatles.

Arnold's back with 'Expendables' at Comic-Con

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Could there be any doubt over what the first two words would be out of Arnold Schwarzenegger's mouth at Comic-Con?

"I'm back," said the former California governor, who has leaped back to acting with a series of upcoming action roles including "The Expendables 2," which Schwarzenegger came to promote at the fan convention.

Schwarzenegger joined fellow stars Sylvester Stallone, Dolph Lundgren, Terry Crews and Randy Couture on a panel to preview footage for Comic-Con.

Quoting his famous line from the "Terminator" films, Schwarzenegger said that after eight years away from action films while governor, he took some ribbing from his co-stars, who also included Bruce Willis, Jet Li, Chuck Norris, Jason Statham, Liam Hemsworth and Jean-Claude Van Damme.

"'Well, we know you've been out of the business for eight years. Let me show you how to load a gun again and, Arnold, here's how you throw a punch,'" Schwarzenegger recalled his co-stars joking.

But after the verbal sparring of state government, Schwarzenegger found he was able to pick up where he left off as an action star fairly fast, doing fun things like taking out a knife and killing a guy and cutting his head off.

"You wish you could do some of those things when you're in politics, but you know, you can't," Schwarzenegger said. The sequel to Stallone's 2010 hit, "The Expendables 2" casts the band of tough guys into vengeance mode after they're betrayed on a mission. The movie arrives in theaters in Aug. 17.

After the preview, Comic-Con organizers presented their Inkpot Award honoring pop-culture contributions to Schwarzenegger, who also has filmed the crime thriller "The Last Stand" since leaving the governor's office.

Stallone, who also co-stars with Schwarzenegger in the upcoming prison thriller "The Tomb," recalled first meeting Schwarzenegger at the Golden Globes for 1977, when his boxing saga "Rocky" won for best picture and Schwarzenegger won as best new star for "Stay Hungry."

"Who is this guy as big as the whole table?" Stallone recalls wondering of former body-building champion Schwarzenegger. After hearing the Austrian's name called for his award, Stallone thought, "No one has a name like that. This guy is doomed, over, flash in the pan."

Schwarzenegger shot back that Stallone set the tone for his own accent-heavy acting career.

"When I came to America 44 years ago, Sly was my English teacher," Schwarzenegger said. "So blame him."

Stallone replied in classic Rocky monosyllables.

"Yo," he said. "Hey."

AP

Figures on the set of of the Disney Tim Burton movie " Frankenweenie" on display at Comic-Con preview night held at the San Diego Convention Center on Wednesday July 11, 2012, in San Diego.

Disney unveils 'Lone Ranger' trailer at Comic-Con

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Johnny Depp made a splash at Comic-Con, and he wasn't even there.

About 6,000 fans at the San Diego Convention Center Thursday got the first look at "The Lone Ranger," which stars Depp as Tonto.

Disney unveiled the brief clip at the conclusion of its panel presentation that included glimpses of Tim Burton's "Frankenweenie," Sam Raimi's "Oz: The Great and Powerful" and the video-game romp "Wreck-It Ralph," which features the voices of Sarah Silverman and John C. Reilly.

"The Lone Ranger" is directed by Gore Verbinski, who worked with Depp on the first three "Pirates of the Caribbean" films and the animated "Rango." It is set for release next summer. Comic-Con continues through Sunday.

Showtime kills with 'Dexter' tease at Comic-Con

SAN DIEGO (AP)—"Dexter" revealed a secret at Comic-Con.

Showtime unleashed the first two minutes from the serial-killing drama's upcoming seventh season at a Comic-Con presentation Thursday.

The scene picked right up right where the sixth season ended, with Jennifer Carpenter's Deb discovering Michael C. Hall's Dexter standing over the body of the Doomsday Killer.

In the scene—spoiler alert!—the forensic analyst attempts to explain the awkward circumstance to his apprehensive police officer sister. She doesn't understand why the body is wrapped in plastic. The moment abruptly ends when Deb calls for backup and Dexter seemingly lunges toward her.

Does the undercover killer think his sister buys his story?

"He hopes so in that moment," said Hall, who was on hand at Thursday's panel with Carpenter.

"She's taking it one step at a time," added a coy Carpenter.

Yvonne Strahovski, who will be guest starring with Hall and Carpenter in the seventh season, was also present at the Comic-Con presentation, but she couldn't divulge much about her role. Strahovski only offered up her character's name, Hanna, and that she's a "woman of mystery with a dark past."

Burton resurrects dead dog tale 'Frankenweenie'

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Tim Burton knows what it's like to be a boy with a dead dog.

The filmmaker came to the Comic-Con fan convention Thursday to show footage of "Frankenweenie," his expanded take on Burton's 1984 short film of the same name.

The film tells the story of a boy who brings his beloved dog back to life after the pet dies in an accident, using a kid's variation of Dr. Frankenstein's laboratory.

"It stemmed from having a dead dog when I was a child and that sort of special first relationship you have with a pet," said Burton, who later mixed in his love of monster movies such as "Dracula" and "Frankenstein." "I just wanted to mix all of those elements, the horror, the humor, the heart of the story."

Unlike the live-action original, the feature-length version is done in black and white through stop-motion animation using puppets meticulously shot one frame at a time.

Burton, who began as an animator, says it was a new experience back then to work with live actors but that the stop-motion version is the more pure take on his story.

Girl crusaders get cold shoulder from Teen Vogue

NEW YORK (AP)—Two girl crusaders who staged a mock red carpet show against Teen Vogue said their meeting with the magazine's top editor was brief and chilly.

The two met with Editor in Chief Amy Astley for less than five minutes Wednesday, when they delivered a petition bearing more than 28,000 signatures after their Times Square protest near the offices of the magazine.

Astley did not talk to Emma Stydahar, 17, or Carina Cruz, 16, about their request for Teen Vogue to declare in its pages that it doesn't digitally manipulate images. Instead, the girls were given copies of Teen Vogue and told to use them to learn more about the magazine.

"It was kind of shocking how rude they were to us," Carina said in a statement released by their all-girl activist group, SPARK Movement. The tone was in contrast to a friendly and much longer chat a 14-year-old counterpart, Julia Bluhm, had in May with Seventeen's top editor, Ann Shoket, after she led a mock photo shoot and presented Shoket with a petition making similar requests.

Shoket then promised in the August issue of Seventeen not to alter body shapes in photographs.

AP

Britney Franco, 13, of the Brooklyn borough of New York, left, poses with Hannah Stydahar, 14, of Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y. during a protest Wednesday, July 11, 2012, near the offices of Teen Vogue in the Times Square section of New York.

Adam Sandler looks to rise again in 'Transylvania'

SAN DIEGO (AP)—The "Twilight" blood-suckers aren't the only big-screen vampires at Comic-Con. Adam Sandler's putting the bite on audiences, too.

On opening day at the fan convention Thursday, Sony Pictures previewed footage of Sandler's animated comedy "Hotel Transylvania," in which he provides the voice of the grand-daddy of vampires, Dracula.

It's the follow-up to a rare flop for Sandler, whose string of hits came to an end this summer with the dud "That's My Boy," co-starring Andy Samberg.

Opening Sept. 28, "Hotel Transylvania" against co-stars Samberg, who provides the voice of a human falling for Dracula's vampire daughter.

"Hotel Transylvania" director Genndy Tartakovsky says he's not worried that Sandler and Samberg are coming off a flop. The filmmaker says his PG-rated family tale is wildly different from the R-rated "That's My Boy."

Long-distance relationship may become uncomfortable up close

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I'm 17 and hopelessly confused. I'm currently in a long-distance relationship with someone I haven't seen in person for several months. At first, I wasn't "into" him, but after we began talking over Skype and emailing, he told me he liked me, so I said I liked him, too—even though I'm not physically attracted to him. I figured that since he lives so far away and there's no one at my school I could see myself liking, why make him feel bad by telling the truth?

Now he's coming to visit for a few days, and I'm worried that I won't like him. I'm his first girlfriend, and I think his parents are excited to see that he finally found someone. My mom tells me that he's a very nice boy and won't leave me like the rest of my egocentric exes. He's just very immature and socially awkward.

I thought I might eventually fall for him because he's smart, motivated and sweet—three things I value in a guy. What do I do about this? Is there something wrong with me?

HOPELESSLY CONFUSED IN SALT LAKE CITY

DEAR CONFUSED: There is nothing "wrong" with you—you are 17 and not experienced. When the young man said he liked you, you should have told him that you like him for all the qualities you mentioned, but as a FRIEND.

When he comes to visit, if he tries to make the encounter romantic, level with him. If you're not attracted to him, it would be cruel to lead him on. You're both still young and have many dating experiences ahead of you. In the future, please remember that honesty is the best policy.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My recently divorced, beautiful, intelligent daughter, "Glynnis," is an executive with a global firm and has a high net worth. During her divorce she reconnected with a high school friend who moved in with her.

This "friend" is a jobless, obese, coarse man who has been divorced three times. Glynnis uses him as an errand/houseboy, chauffeur, bodyguard, handyman and general flunky. He will do anything she asks of him at any time. One can only assume he thinks he has won the lottery.

This man is an embarrassment of monumental proportions. We live in another state and go to visit them. I am extremely uncomfortable with the bizarre image of a couple they present. At lunch, dinner or out shopping with them, people actually gasp when they realize the two are together.

I cannot relate to him. Conversing with him is hopeless. Of course, it's my daughter's business who she wants in her life. But I'm disgusted with the entire scenario. I don't want to damage my relationship with my daughter. Any suggestions?

GLYNNIS' DAD

DEAR DAD: Yes. Try harder to find SOMETHING you have in common with your daughter's companion, and you may start to understand what she sees in him. Right now he's serving a purpose. Having been through a divorce, she may want a man around who can perform all the jobs you listed. Or, she may just want someone she can control. If you're serious about his function as a bodyguard, suggest that if she feels threatened, she should talk to the police, who are trained to handle such matters.

As you said, your daughter is intelligent. It's unlikely she'll remarry anytime soon. So calm down and try to be less judgmental, because unless you manage it, you will drive a wedge between yourself and Glynnis. Or stay home.

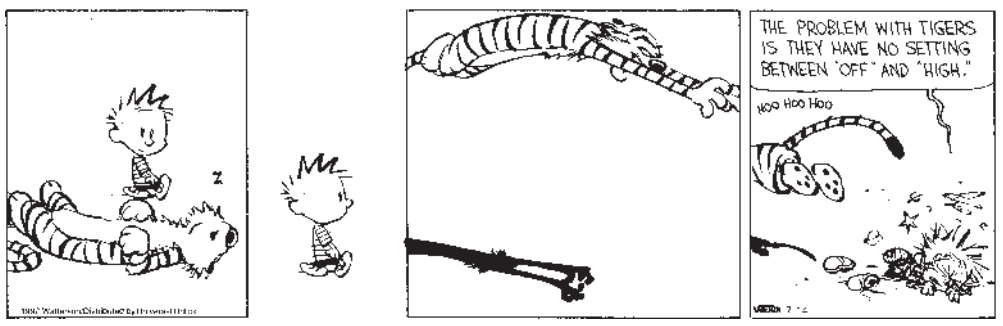
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

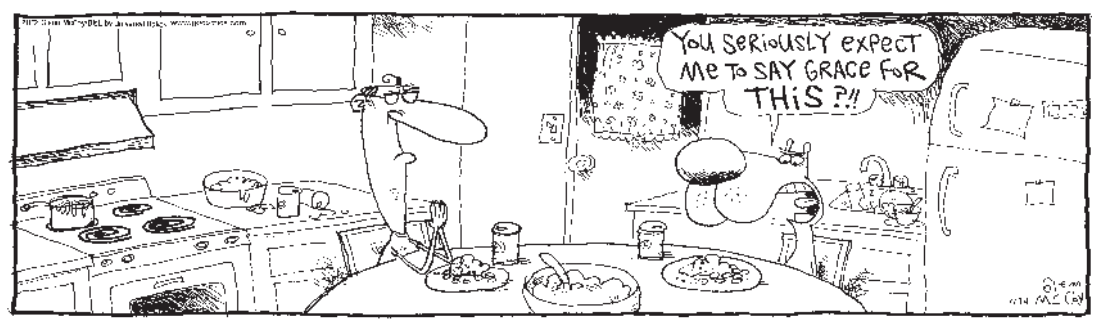
By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Constitutional
6 Lab containers
11 So far
12 Proofreader's worries
14 Convertible
15 Honcho
16 Salt Lake athlete
17 Crenshaw, for one
19 "CSI" evidence
20 Inmate's weapon
22 2006 Nintendo debut
23 Leak slowly
24 Doctrine
26 Dueler's warning
28 Young bloke
30 Solidify
31 Dome-shaped candy
35 Community character
39 Taking care of business
40 Symbol of intrigue
42 Winnow
43 Grecian vessel
44 Destroyed
46 Chicken-king link
47 GI ID
49 Motley
51 Cause of hereditary variation
52 Does recon
53 Material for hosen
54 Yon individuals

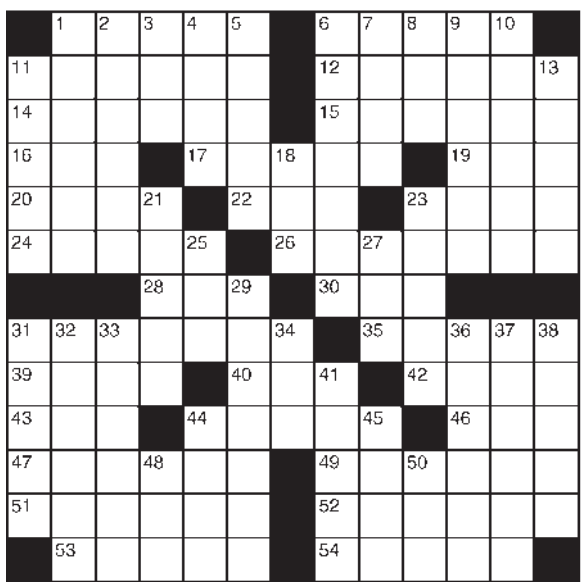
DOWN

1 Abhor
2 Enter cautiously
3 Roscoe
4 Fermi's bit
5 Cartoon skunk Pepe
6 Nixon's nixing?
7 Unyielding
8 Dadaist Jean
9 House-painter's need
10 Severely pelted
11 Have faith in
13 Open-mouthed
18 Whopper
21 African grassland
23 Epsom —
25 Pitch
27 "Wow!"
29 Grande dame
31 Dutch cheese
32 Open out
33 Rub elbows
34 Energy
36 Gap
37 Recently
38 Companionless fellows
41 Pop
44 Hardy cabbage
45 Dashboard dial, briefly
48 Kennedy or Koppel
50 Moo — gai pan

Solution time: 27 mins.

A	R	E	N	A	■	S	P	Y	■	E	G	G
P	A	C	E	S	■	L	A	O	■	N	E	O
E	T	H	O	S	■	E	C	U	A	D	O	R
■	■	I	N	A	P	E	T	■	L	O	D	E
E	N	D	■	I	R	K	■	P	A	W	E	D
M	Y	N	A	■	A	S	S	E	S	■	■	■
S	C	A	R	E	D	■	L	A	K	E	R	S
■	■	■	G	R	A	P	E	■	A	C	N	E
S	U	P	F	R	■	R	F	D	■	O	A	T
P	L	A	N	■	R	A	T	I	O	N	■	■
F	C	S	T	A	S	Y	■	F	M	O	T	F
N	F	T	■	A	V	F	■	T	I	M	F	R
D	R	Y	■	A	P	R	■	S	T	Y	N	F

Yesterday's answer 7-14



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Scott Porter, 33; Matthew Fox, 46; Jackie Earle Haley, 51; Jane Lynch, 52.

Happy Birthday: Helping others will enable you to connect with people who can assist you in reaching your goals. Take a close look at the alterations that should be made to your personal space or the relationships with the people you share with, and you will discover a way to ease your stress. Your numbers are 2, 12, 23, 31, 35, 45, 48.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Past connections and experiences will help you make decisions now. Expressing what you want and how you see things unfolding will result in a partnership with someone serious about getting ahead. Romance will ease your stress. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Make adjustments that will help you get your way. A secret move on the part of a friend or peer will affect your reputation or position. Do your own fact-finding, and make moves based on what you know, not what you hear. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't let excess be your downfall. A change of plan will lead to an interesting new challenge or activity that encourages greater interaction with exciting new people. An energetic approach to whatever you do will appeal to the people you meet. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Avoid making an abrupt decision. You have to look at all options and refrain from letting a personal incident cloud your vision, causing you to give in to what someone else wants. Protect your assets and your reputation. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Your involvement in an activity or organization that brings you in contact with people from your past will resurrect old ideas and feelings. Avoid showing your emotions too quickly, or you may end up repeating a mistake you made long ago. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Question everyone and everything. Protect what you've worked to achieve. Put pressure on anyone who owes you personally or professionally. It's time to collect and to change your life to suit your needs. Don't let a compliment sidetrack you. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Traveling, learning and discussing your plans will lead to self-improvement. Take the initiative and update your technological savvy. Make the first move, if it will improve your love life. Helping others will result in favors that benefit you. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Financial caution is needed. An investment based on hearsay will set you back. Focus on what you know as fact, and follow a path that allows you to use your skills and knowledge to reach your goals. Hard work pays off. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Get serious about your plans, and make things happen. You can change your life financially, emotionally and physically, easing your stress. Get rid of what's holding you back and bring in the replacements you desire. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): A change of location will help you determine your next move. Visualize what you want, and begin the process of turning a dream into a reality. Refrain from being impulsive. Time is on your side. Strategic moves will lead to success. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Follow your heart. Take on extra work or a challenge. Altering your living space will help you integrate your home and workplace, making you more efficient. Pick up whatever you require to start or expand a home-based business. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): An emotional discussion will get you thinking about the changes you need to make. Money or a gift is likely to come your way. A little soul-searching will go a long way. Address your past, present and future, and improve your life. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are a unique, versatile dreamer and a take-charge doer.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

4	3				9		5	2
		7			5			
			9	4 8	3	1		8
2		3		7				
			3			4		
6								7
	5		2				1	

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 7/14

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	6	4	1	7	3	5	2	8
3	5	7	8	2	9	6	4	1
1	8	2	5	6	4	9	3	7
7	9	5	3	4	8	2	1	6
6	4	8	2	5	1	7	9	3
2	1	3	7	9	6	8	5	4
8	3	6	9	1	2	4	7	5
5	2	1	4	8	7	3	6	9
4	7	9	6	3	5	1	8	2

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 7/13

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

WINNIPEG FRINGE FESTIVAL — Solution: 8 letters

E	D	I	U	G	N	I	M	R	O	F	R	E	P	G
E	V	E	N	T	S	C	A	F	F	A	T	S	O	N
R	T	M	P	T	Y	G	N	I	T	C	A	E	P	I
D	O	N	T	I	E	L	T	S	A	C	R	U	S	C
N	G	O	A	E	H	R	I	I	E	S	O	N	T	N
O	E	R	D	R	K	S	G	M	C	N	U	E	A	A
Y	T	B	J	T	B	R	R	A	A	K	T	V	R	D
E	H	I	O	(L)	U	I	A	E	L	F	E	E	S	N
B	E	T	(I)	B	G	O	V	M	H	A	A	T	R	A
U	R	(V)	N	U	N	T	I	A	D	T	C	N	S	L
S	(E)	I	E	L	I	T	T	P	I	L	O	T	Z	T
K	D	S	L	M	G	O	Y	S	T	O	O	M	I	O
E	T	I	E	B	N	L	W	O	R	K	I	N	G	C
R	K	A	R	T	I	S	T	S	T	A	E	R	G	S
S	L	A	C	I	S	U	M	G	A	L	A	X	Y	A

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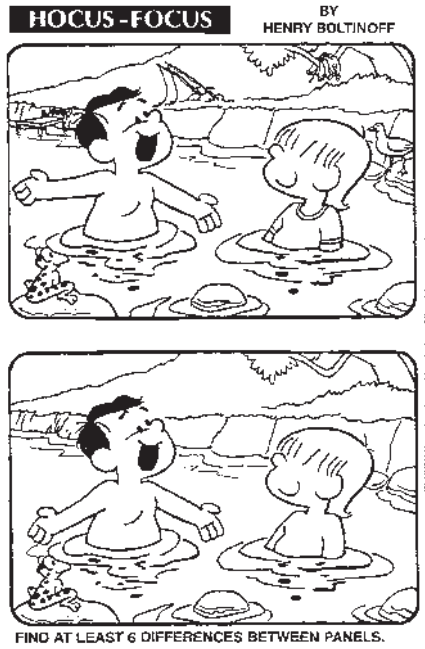
Acting, Antigravity, Artists, Beyond, Buskers, Caff, Cast, Dancing, Edinburg, Enter, Events, Family, Galaxy, Goers, Great, Guest, Guide, Intergalactic, Join, Live, Maps, Mothership, Musicals, Oldmarket, Orbit, Outdoor, Performing, Pop Stars, Route, Scotland, Singing, Skill, Slot, Staff, Tickets, Time, Together, Venues, Vibrant, Working, Ziggy

Yesterday's Answer: Nations

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.

Differences: 1. Duck is missing, 2. Arm is moved, 3. Poles are missing, 4. Clothes (in tree) are missing, 5. Bird is missing, 6. T-shirt is missing.

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Wishing Well®

4	3	4	3	2	6	2	8	2	8	4	3	4
L	L	I	O	Y	S	O	P	U	R	V	V	E
6	4	7	6	5	3	2	7	4	5	3	2	4
P	Y	Y	L	B	E	A	O	O	E	A	T	U
6	4	6	2	4	3	5	3	2	5	4	3	5
E	R	N	T	I	B	D	O	A	I	D	U	L
2	6	4	7	8	5	3	2	4	8	2	3	5
I	D	E	U	O	I	N	N	A	B	G	D	G
6	8	4	8	2	7	3	8	5	4	2	7	2
I	L	L	E	O	G	S	M	E	S	A	A	L
5	7	8	2	7	5	8	6	8	6	8	7	8
N	I	S	S	N	T	O	D	L	V	V	R	E
6	8	6	7	6	7	6	7	6	7	6	7	7
I	D	C	E	T	S	O	P	R	E	Y	C	T

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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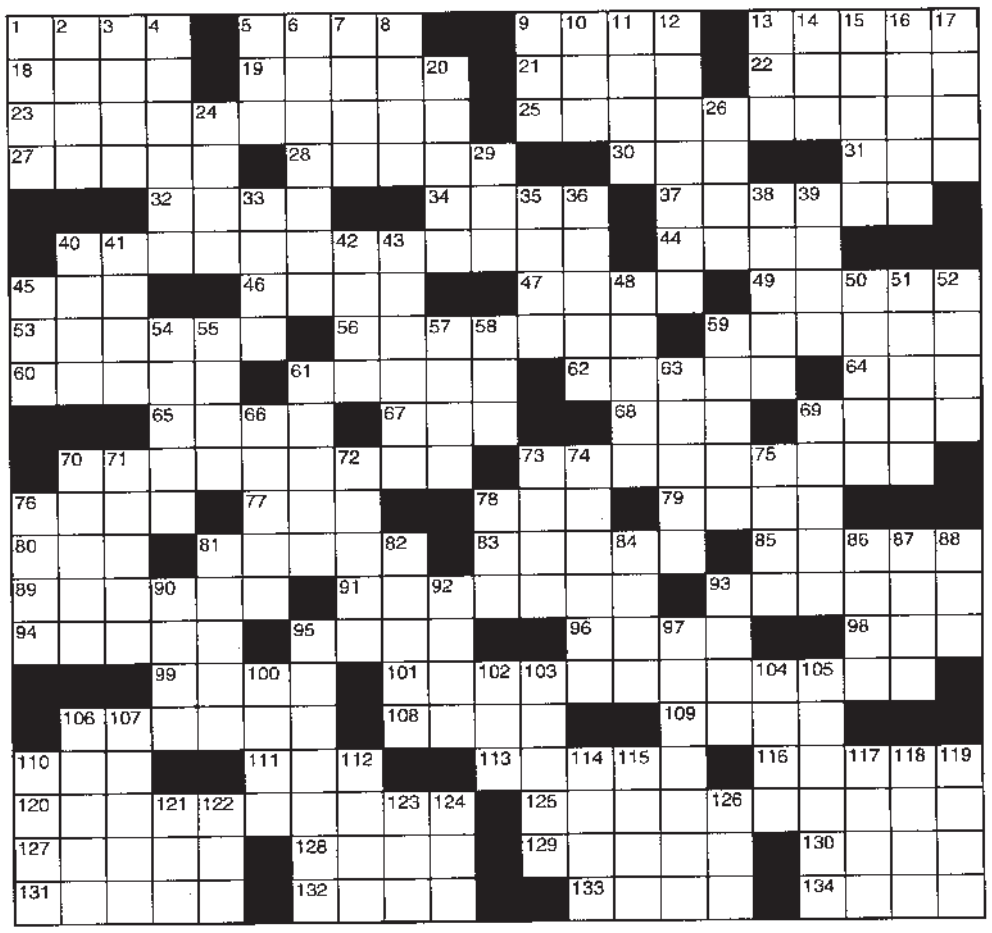
Super Crossword — SIX-FOOTERS

ACROSS

1 Kite or coot
5 Chihuahua snack
9 "Goodbye, Columbus" author
13 Egyptian Nobelist
18 Sore
19 Addis —
21 Merrill melody
22 Menander's marketplace
23 6' actress
25 6' comedian
27 Cook clams
28 Trickles
30 Clean-air org.
31 Cartoon cry
32 Wool gatherer?
34 Not — many words
37 "Animal Farm" author
40 6' actor
44 Garfield's pal
45 Tie the knot
46 38 Down, for one
47 — impasse
49 Sour sort
53 Swallow up
56 Undergoes
59 Make a pile?
60 Pool person
61 Puzzling problem
62 Scarlett's sweetheart
64 Actress Hagen
65 Potter's need
67 Browning's bedtime?
68 Diva Marton
69 Young or King
70 6' designer
73 6' author
76 Art deco figure
77 Marsh
78 Parenthesis shape
79 Melodious McEntire
80 Deli loaf
81 Robert of "The Citadel"
83 Feline, familiarly
85 Force
89 '66 Michael Caine movie
91 Supervise
93 Take for granted
94 Attack
95 They may get cold
96 Ring out
98 Fix a fight
99 And others
101 6' singer
106 Paraguayan title
108 Mediocre
109 When pigs whistle, to Tennyson
110 Mongrel
111 Address abbr.
113 Actress Hedren
115 Gettysburg commander
120 6' trumpeter
125 6' anthropologist
127 Doll up
128 Ireland
129 County in 128 Across
130 Scorch
131 Pass on
132 Crowd-burst?
133 Part of a threat
134 Connecticut campus

DOWN

1 Supermarket supplies
2 "New Jack City" actor
3 Korean statesman
4 Go-getter
5 Lincoln son
6 Disconcerts
7 Spelunker's spot
8 Tony's cousin
9 Scott's "The — Quartet"
10 Mispickel, e.g.
11 Become winded
12 Queequeg's weapon
13 Mr. Mineo
14 Season firewood
15 Peg
16 Shake-spearean sprite
17 Chore
20 Clear jelly
24 Love, to Livy
26 Grounds
29 — -Cat (winter transport)
33 Relief initials?
35 Constellation component
36 Furry fisherman
38 Cowes' locale
39 First name in architecture
40 Fellow
41 Brink
42 Role for Liz
43 Has a hunch
45 Craven or Unseld
48 Peter of Peter and Gordon
50 It's down in the mouth
51 Copper or cobalt
52 Mastermind
54 Quitter's cry
55 Vegetate
57 "Disco Duck" singer
58 Keatsian crock
59 Barrel part
61 Tower
63 Each's partner
66 Head monk
69 See 70 Down
70 With 69 Down, "Heaven" singer
71 Stuff
72 Dumbstruck
73 "True —" ('69 film)
74 Arm-y types?
75 Wading bird
76 Therefore
78 Canine grp.
81 "Same here!"
82 Lock
84 "Lemon —" ('65 hit)
86 Immaculate
87 Kuwaiti kingpin
88 Turkey serving
90 "I've — had!"
92 Conductor Klemperer
93 — vera
95 Roaring Twenties figure
97 Canvas shades
100 Inland sea
102 Superlative suffix
103 Nullifies
104 "Nautilus" captain
105 Formal
106 Kid stuff?
107 Comic Leon
110 Canterbury cleaner
112 Austin or Copley
114 Velvet feature
115 Bucket
117 On the briny
118 Distribute the deck
119 Rochester's missus
121 It may be strapless
122 Whichever
123 Carnival site
124 Big bang letters
126 Adversary



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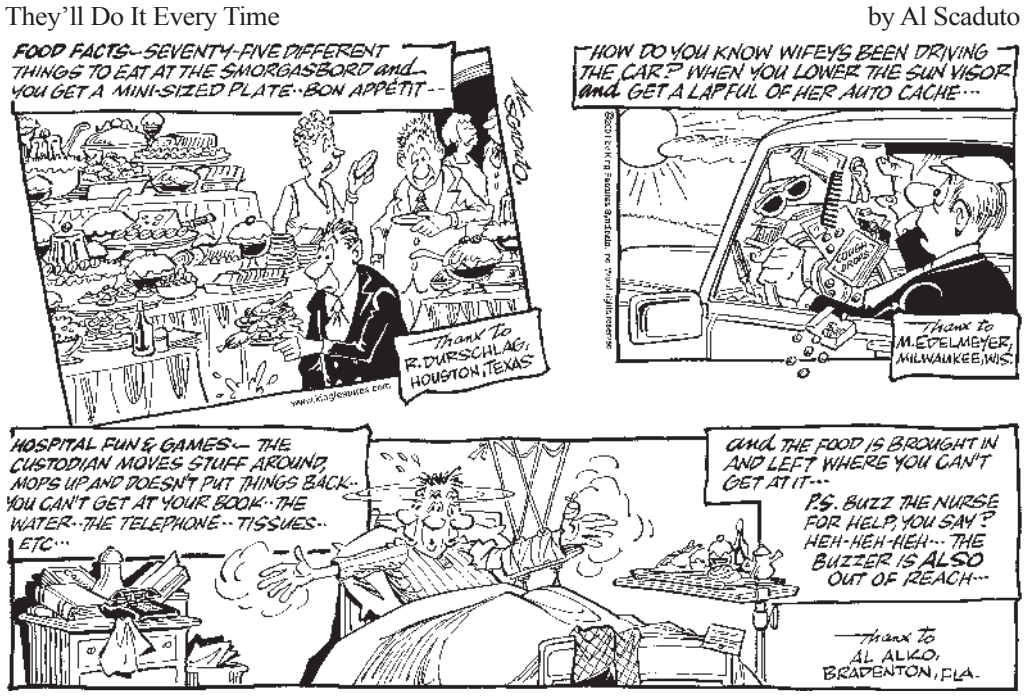
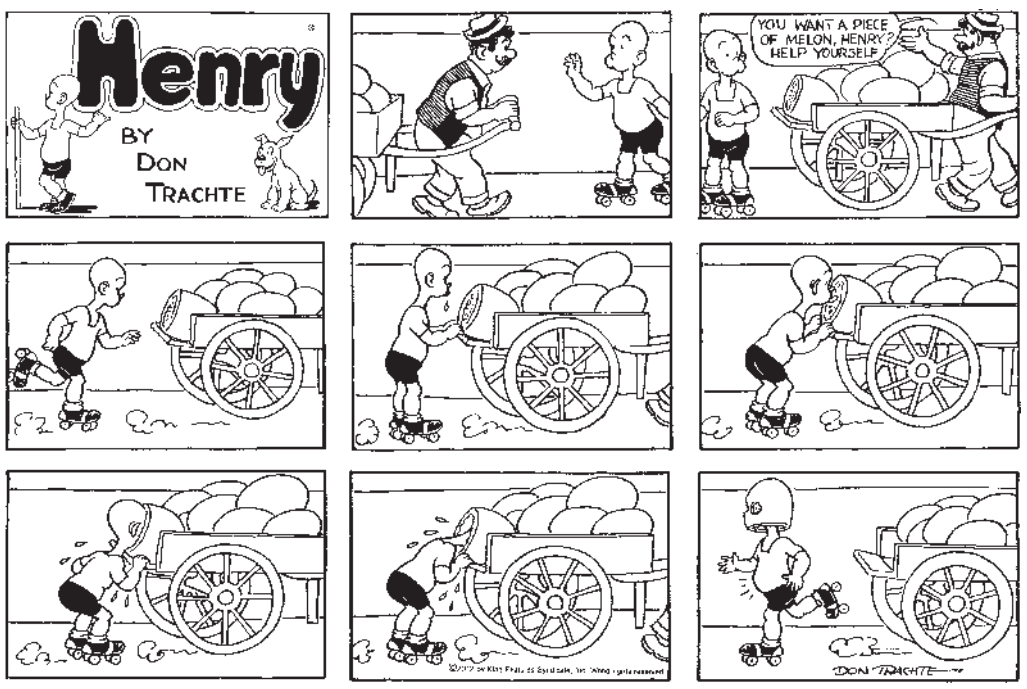
They'll Do It Every Time — by Al Scaduto





Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. MOVIES: What was Indiana Jones' real first name in Steven Spielberg's movie series?
2. LANGUAGE: What is a raincoat called in English slang?
3. GEOGRAPHY: What is the largest European country where people still drive on the left?
4. MUSIC: What rock band included musicians Glenn Frey, Don Henley, Bernie Leadon and Randy Meisner?
5. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of flamingos called?
6. COMICS: What is the name of Jeremy's brother in the comic strip "Zits"?
7. U.S. PRESIDENTS: What former first lady appeared in a margarine commercial on television?
8. LITERATURE: In "The Polar Express," what present did the boy ask Santa Claus to give him?
9. ENTERTAINERS: Comedian Minnie Pearl used to wear a trademark hat with a price tag hanging from it. What was the amount on the tag?
10. ASTRONOMY: Which planet in our solar system has a large red spot on it?

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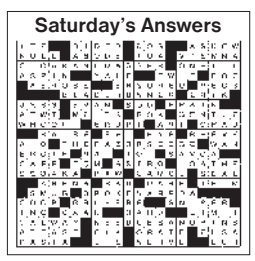
Answers

1. Henry
2. A "mac," short for "Macintosh"
3. United Kingdom
4. Eagles
5. A flamboyance
6. Chad
7. Eleanor Roosevelt
8. A silver bell
9. $1.98
10. Jupiter

Saturday's Answers



The Spats — by Jeff Pickering

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

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• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

LEE KWANG SUK, Plaintiff, vs. DANIEL R. QUITUGUA, JR., Defendant.	Civil Action No. 11-0115

NOTICE AND ORDER CONTINUING HEARING ON MOTION FOR ENTRY OF JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Plaintiff's previously noticed and continued November 9, 2011 Motion for Entry of Judgment by Default and hearing thereon is continued and reset for hearing on Wednesday, August 1, 2012 at 9:30am. Defendant Daniel R. Quitugua, Jr., and all other interested parties and persons shall appear and present their opposition or objections at that time or failing to do so, final judgment by default may be entered and granted in Plaintiff's favor.

This notice and order shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Commonwealth on two (2) consecutive Saturdays prior to the August 1, 2012 hearing date.

SO ORDERED AND ENTERED this 25th day of June, 2012.

HON. ROBERT C. NARAJA
Presiding Judge

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More items to sell...
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6 AM TO 12 NOON
After Dandan Golf Range along Airport Road
Exploring Drive, follow the signs...

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P.O. Box 502997 Saipan, MP 96950
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(1) Sales Representative
2 years experience. Knowledge in Chinese language a plus. Flexible hours. Salary $5.05/hr. Call 235-6128. Email tomastchong@gmail.com or call 888-5748.

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Minimum of 5 years experience or more required. Must be knowledgeable in the maintenance and repair of diesel powered engine and related equipments using power and hand tools, generator engine overhaul of 1000KW and more, electrical control panel, digital voltage regulator setting and other related duties.
Email to marianas_star@yahoo.com
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Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $600/mo. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

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Paterno's legacy may now be damaged beyond repair

By NANCY ARMOUR
AP NATIONAL WRITER

For decades Penn State was considered special, immune from the corruption of college athletics by virtue of Joe Paterno's high ideals, long list of victories and even longer list of graduates.

Now, to many people outside Penn State and even some insiders, that's been exposed as an illusion.

A blistering report released Thursday found Paterno helped hush up allegations of child sex abuse against a former assistant that went back more than a decade, sacrificing the ideals he preached to protect his football program. Paterno, former FBI Director Louis Freeh said, was "an integral part of this active decision to conceal."

"I doubt anybody could have imagined this. In eight months, he's gone from St. Joe to something approaching the devil," said Frank Fitzpatrick, a Philadelphia Inquirer columnist and author of two books on Paterno and Penn State, including a biography last year, "Pride of the Lions."

"The contrast between the ethical standards we always associated with Joe and the complete lack of them in how this was handled - if what the Freeh Report says is true, and I have no reason to doubt it is, to sacrifice kids for the reputation of a football program, that's pretty despicable. I can't imagine anything more shocking than that."

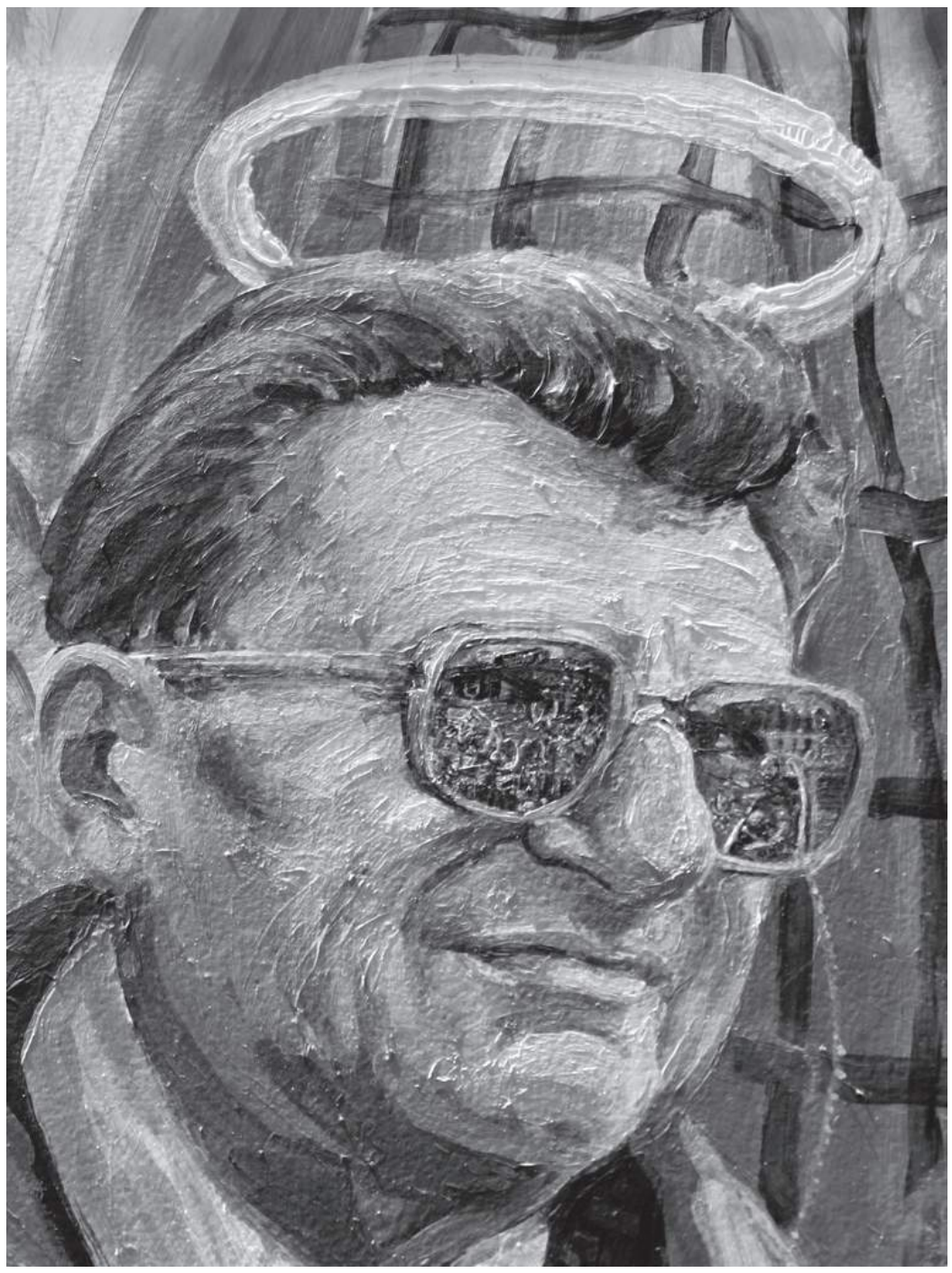
Nike announced it was stripping Paterno's name from the child care center at its headquarters in Beaverton, Ore., not even six months after founder Phil Knight drew a thunderous ovation for an impassioned defense of the major college football's winningest coach at his memorial service. There was renewed clamor online to remove Paterno's statue outside Beaver Stadium, and USA Today columnist Christine Brennan called on Penn State to drop football for at least a year until the university has addressed the failings that led to the scandal.

There could still be more fallout from court cases—criminal charges against two administrators, civil suits from victims of Jerry Sandusky—and the NCAA has yet to decide whether it will weigh in on the scandal or not.

"A statue should be least of someone's worries at this point," Penn State's former star linebacker LaVar Arrington said on his radio show in Washington, D.C. "A name on a building should be the least of someone's worries.

"On the one hand, Joe messed up. Joe was not perfect, Joe was not God. Joe was a person, and he messed up," Arrington said. "On the other hand, if you're looking at everything Joe has done and all the lives he's impacted and all the things he's done ... that still remains as well. So how do you separate the two? I don't know. I don't have the answer for that one, I really don't."

Until last fall, Paterno symbolized all that was right about college sports. His teams won, but he didn't sacrifice his standards to do it. Penn State's graduation rates were impeccable, his players were as good off the field as they were on, and his financial support of the university often had nothing to do with the football program.



AP
This is a painting of former Penn State head football coach Joe Paterno on a mural by artists Michael Pilato and Yury Karabash, seen on Thursday, July 12, 2012 in downtown State College, Pa.

Even after the November arrest of Sandusky, the architect of Penn State's ferocious defenses and Paterno's one-time heir apparent, many were hesitant to put too much blame on Paterno or let his one failing outweigh all his good deeds. Paterno acknowledged before his January death that he should have done more after a then-graduate assistant told the Hall of Fame coach he'd seen Sandusky assaulting a child in the Penn State showers in 2001, but insisted he had no knowledge of any accusations prior to that.

But the stark horror of Freeh's report was impossible to ignore.

Freeh's firm, hired by university trustees to investigate how the scandal happened, found that Paterno, and three other administrators at the time - President Graham Spanier, athletic director Tim Curley and vice president Gary Schultz - "repeatedly concealed critical facts relating to Sandusky's child abuse." Handwritten notes and emails portray Paterno as being involved in a decision by the officials not to tell child welfare authorities about a 2001 encounter, while other emails show Paterno closely followed allegations made against Sandusky in 1998.

At a news conference, Freeh called the officials' disregard for child victims "callous and shocking."

"We should look at (Paterno) as a willing enabler of a convicted child molester," Brennan said. "I absolutely understand and respect the past. The games he won, the number of players he graduated, that's a tremendous record. This supercedes all of that. ... What happened to these children because of Joe Paterno - it's because of Jerry Sandusky first and foremost. But Joe Paterno did not stop it and he enabled it, and that's just tragic."

Sandusky is awaiting sentencing after being convicted last month on 45 criminal counts of abusing 10 boys. Paterno died of lung cancer in January, two months after school trustees fired him for what they called a failure of leadership.

"I always thought he knew. To what extent, that was the only question," said Brad Benson, a former Penn State offensive lineman who won a Super Bowl with the New York Giants. "I thought that anyone who didn't think he knew was pretty naive. Joe knew pretty much everything going on there."

Even Knight acknowledged he had been on the wrong side of the moral divide, though his anguish at the dismantling of Paterno's legacy was clear.

"Throughout Joe Paterno's career, he strived to put young athletes in a position to succeed and win in sport but most importantly in life. Joe influenced thousands of young men to become better leaders, fathers and husbands," Knight said in a statement. "According to the investigation, it appears Joe made missteps that led to heartbreaking consequences. I missed that Joe missed it, and I am extremely saddened on this day. My love for Joe and his family remains."

For those closest to Penn State and Paterno, though, their faith in the coach remains unshakeable. They believe Paterno, though not perfect, is being made a scapegoat, with no way to refute the accusations. Paterno had planned to cooperate with the investigation, but died before he could give Freeh's team his account of what happened.

"It's easy to vilify or blame someone who's not alive to defend himself," said Tim Sweeney, president of Penn State's official Football Letterman's Club.

There is no way Paterno would have covered actions as heinous as Sandusky's up, said Mickey Shuler, who played tight end for Paterno from 1975 to 1977—regardless of the cost to him or his program.

"Joe Paterno always taught us that whatever you are, be a good one. Whatever you're at, whatever you do, leave a place better for having been there. That's the thing he taught," Shuler said. "So to have people say that he's done something wrong, it's really upsetting."

But that misses the point, Benson said. The lives of at least 10 children have been changed forever, and that is where the focus should be.

"There's no way out of this to make it a good story. It's a shame," Benson said. "But we're being selfish saying it's a shame. It's a shame for these kids. Penn State will recover, these kids won't."

Matteson shoots 61 to lead at John Deere Classic

SILVIS, Ill. (AP)—Troy Matteson scored 10 birdies Thursday en route to a bogey-free round of 10-under 61 for a three-stroke stroke lead after one round of the John Deere Classic.

Matteson, a two-time winner on the PGA Tour, birdied five holes on each nine of the TPC Deere Run to surpass the 7-under 64 of second place Ricky Barnes. Matteson started by making birdies on three of his first four holes and finished with birdies on four of his first five.

He nearly holed out from a bunker on the par-4 ninth for a 60, but settled for par.

Barnes, out in the second group of the day, birdied all three par-5s and two of the four par-3s to pace the morning half of the field.

Robert Garrigus, among a group tied for third at 6-under 65, eagled the par-5 17th by hooking a 270-yard second shot around a tree to set up a 30-foot eagle putt.

Steve Stricker, chasing a fourth straight victory in the Deere, shot a 65 punctuated by an 80-yard wedge for an eagle 2 on the par-4 14th.

Zach Johnson, the highest ranked player in the tournament at sixth in the PGA Tour point standings, shot 3-under 68 thanks to a 4-under 31 on his last nine holes.

Low scores are common in the Deere. TPC Deere Run has yielded at least one 62 or better since 2008, including a first-round 59 by Paul Goydos two years ago. Friday, the field averaged about 69.6 strokes per player.

Only 46 players finished over par. Matteson's had an average year to this point, missing the cut in 11 of 21 tournaments, including his first five starts. His best finish is a tie for 26th at the Honda Classic. But he lowered his best score for the year, a 65 at the Humana Classic, by four strokes in taking the lead. It's his best start in any Tour tournament.

It was only the third time this year he's broken 70 in the first round.

"I've always been one of the slow-starting Thursday players," Matteson said. "If I could do one thing differently in my entire career, it would be to be a faster starter."

Matteson rolled in 31- and nine-footers for birdies on his first two holes, then ran a birdie attempt on his third hole over the edge of the hole, settling for a tap-in par. A 20-footer for a birdie 3 opened his back nine, which was spiced by a near-eagle on the par-4 fifth, his 14th hole. His birdie putt was 10 inches.

Matteson scored back-to-back 61s en route to winning the Frys.com Open in 2009.

Barnes is 89th in the point standings and 101st on the money list, but birdied three of his first five holes.

His card was marred only by a bogey on the par-4 ninth when he failed to get up and down from the rough. He considered it only a start.

"You'll have to be in the 20s (under par) to have a chance to win," Barnes said. "At most tournaments, when you're 4-under through eight holes, you're in the lead or tied. Here, you have to keep up that kind of pace."

Stricker's eagle from the 14th fairway accelerated his back nine of 6-under 30. He played the front nine in even par 35 before a 10-foot birdie putt on the par-5 10th hole began his run toward the leaders.

He birdied the 15th and 17th holes to jump into a tie for third with six other players, including Garrigus and Luke Guthrie, the recent Illinois graduate playing in his second tournament as a professional.

Guthrie earned $67,872 by tying for 19th in his first Tour start, at the St. Jude Classic in Memphis, Tenn.. His bogey-free 65, which featured a 64-foot eagle putt on the par-5 second hole, was his fourth round under par in five as a pro.

Durant scores 24, US Olympic team wins exhibition

LAS VEGAS (AP)—New role, same old result for Kevin Durant.

And even with another loss from its roster, the U.S. Olympic basketball team just keeps on rolling along.

Durant picked up where he left off in international competition, scoring 24 points and grabbing 10 rebounds to lead the Americans to a 113-59 victory over the Dominican Republic on Thursday night in an exhibition game.

The MVP of the world basketball championship two years ago, Durant came off the bench to shoot 9 of 11 from the field, making 5 of 6 3-pointers in 22 minutes. He said coach Mike Krzyzewski told him shortly before the game that Carmelo Anthony would start alongside LeBron James at forward, and he adjusted just fine.

"It felt good to me," Durant said. "It was cool to come off the bench for the first time. Wherever they need that spark, I'm going to try to come out and give them that spark. So I was looking forward to having different roles playing with USA, so it was kind of fun for me, actually."

And it worked perfectly for the Americans, who continue to shake off their lack of size by throwing together lineups that negate any height disadvantage. Durant came in the first time for center Tyson Chandler.

"The way we're playing is exactly the way we should play, I think, with this group of athletes and with the depth that we have," Krzyzewski said, adding that Durant would remain a reserve for at least the next game. "We have good depth, especially on the perimeter."

Andre Iguodala added 18 points and Anthony had 13 for the Americans, who were without All-Star forward Blake Griffin. The Los Angeles Clippers announced Thursday night that he would need surgery to repair torn cartilage in his left knee and would miss the Olympics.

It's another loss up front for the Americans, already without Dwight Howard and Chris Bosh. But James, Anthony and Durant can all play power forward or perhaps even center in the international game.

"They're big," said Dominican Republic coach John Calipari, who won the national championship with Kentucky in April. "They're bigger than you think."

Alternate Anthony Davis took Griffin's place and was in uniform against his college coach. But Calipari was the on the wrong end of the talent mismatch in this one, calling a few timeouts but probably knowing there was no strategy to stop the onslaught of U.S. fast breaks.

Davis, the national player of the year as a freshman and No. 1 pick in the NBA draft, didn't make the 12-man roster after being unable to scrimmage before it was selected while recovering from a sprained ankle. But USA Basketball leadership believes his rebounding and shot blocking could be a good addition to an undersized team in case of an injury, and he scored nine points in 10 fourth-quarter minutes.

Al Horford of the Atlanta Hawks shot 1 of 12 and had seven points and the Dominicans' other NBA player, Francisco Garcia, missed all three attempts from the field and didn't score.

James and Kobe Bryant both had limited duty, playing less than 20 minutes and combining for 11 points.

Durant hit all five shots in the first quarter, including three 3-pointers. He returned early in the second and knocked down another 3 before he finally missed, helping the Americans build a 50-27 halftime lead behind his 21 points. He started the second half.

Griffin is another loss for a U.S. team that already saw Howard, Derrick Rose, Dwyane Wade and Bosh withdraw because of injuries. Chris Paul has been limited during training camp after spraining his right thumb on the first day.

Despite those losses, the Americans still consider themselves the best team in the world - and apparently, ever. Bryant created a stir when he said he thought this young, athletic U.S. team probably would have pulled out a game against the Dream Team, which didn't sit well with his Hall of Fame elders.

"I absolutely laughed," Michael Jordan said before playing in a celebrity golf tournament in Charlotte, N.C. "For him to compare those two teams is not one of the smarter things he ever could have done."

Bryant wasn't bothered.

"I'm not really tripping," Bryant said. "The fact is they've got (Patrick) Ewing and (David) Robinson, those big guys. I mean it's tough. But if you're asking me if we can beat them one game, hell yeah we can beat them one game. You didn't ask me if we could beat them in a seven-game series. One game, we could get them, no question about it."

The Americans believe they can be better than the team that won the gold medal four years ago because of Durant, the NBA's three-time scoring champion who seems even more dangerous in international competition. The 3-point line, just over 22 feet away, is an easy shot for him, and at 6-foot-9 he can play any frontcourt position—he entered the game the first time for center Tyson Chandler.

Durant set U.S. tournament records two years ago in Istanbul with 38 points in a game and an average of 22.8 for the championship, leading a young U.S. team to its first gold medal in the event since 1994. He has transitioned easily to this veteran squad that returns five players from the gold medalists in Beijing.

The Dominicans nearly joined the Americans in London, losing to Nigeria in the third-place game of the Olympic qualifying tournament last Sunday. Had they won, they would have claimed the 12th and final place in the field.

Now they know what they favorites would have looked like.

With Duke's Krzyzewski on the U.S. bench and facing Calipari for the first time in seven years, the coaching matchup was worthy of an NCAA Final Four. The scoreboard was more representative of a No. 1 vs. No. 16 game.

The Americans barely let the Dominicans get into any sort of offense, limiting them to 32 percent shooting.

About the only thing to question about the U.S. were their uniforms, featuring white tops with the pattern of an American flag faded into the back, and shorts that were white in the front and blue in back, making them look like the home team facing one direction and the visitors from behind.

The Americans head across the country Friday to continue their training in Durant's hometown of Washington. They will play an exhibition game against Brazil on Monday before finishing their Olympic preparations in Europe.

The Dominicans lost former Louisville guard Edgar Sosa to a leg injury in the first quarter. Calipari believed he had a broken foot.

AP

USA Basketball Men's National Team members, from left, James Harden, Carmelo Anthony, LeBron James, Russell Westbrook, Kevin Durant, and Chris Paul celebrate after defeating the Dominican Republic 113-59 at the Thomas and Mack Center in Las Vegas on July 12, 2012.

Jordan: 1992 Dream Team better than 2012 USA squad

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Michael Jordan said there's no way Kobe Bryant and this year's USA Olympic basketball team could've beaten the 1992 Dream Team.

Jordan told The Associated Press Thursday that he laughed—"I absolutely laughed"—when hearing Bryant's comments that the squad training in Las Vegas could take Jordan and company.

Jordan said there's "no comparison" which team is better.

"For him to compare those two teams is not one of the smarter things he ever could have done," Jordan said prior to playing in a celebrity golf tournament in Charlotte.

Jordan said the 1992 team, which included 11 future Hall of Famers and won its six Olympic games by an average of more than 43 points en route to capturing the gold medal, was a better overall team largely because of the experience it put on the floor.

"I heard Kobe say we were not athletic," said a smiling Jordan as he sat in a golf cart puffing on his cigar while waiting to tee off. "But we were smart. He said we were too old, but I was 29 and in the prime of my career. Pip (Scottie Pippen) was 26 or 27, (Charles) Barkley was 29, Patrick (Ewing) was 29 and Chris Mullin was 29. Almost everybody was still in their twenties."

Jordan's response came after Bryant told reporters in Las Vegas that this year's team could pull out a win against the Dream Team if they faced each other in their primes. Bryant said this year's team has a bunch of racehorses, players who are incredibly athletic while the Dream Team consisted mainly of players at the tail end of their careers.

He wasn't backing away from how he felt after the U.S. beat the Dominican Republic 113-59 on Thursday night in its exhibition opener, and wasn't bothered by Jordan's response.

"I'm not really tripping," Bryant said. "The fact is they've got (Patrick) Ewing and (David) Robinson, those big guys. I mean it's tough. But if you're asking me if we can beat them one game, hell yeah we can beat them one game. You didn't ask me if we could beat them in a seven-game series. One game, we could get them, no question about it."

Bryant's earlier comments received immediate and sharp rebuttal from some members of the Dream Team, including Barkley.

Jordan joined in on Thursday.

"Most of us were in the prime of our careers, at a point where athleticism doesn't really matter," said Jordan, the owner of the Charlotte Bobcats. "You have to know how to play the game."

Jordan shook his head when asked why he thinks Bryant made the comments.

"I imagine he's trying to say it to legitimize his own Dream Team," Jordan said. "But to me it's not even a question what team is better."

Jordan said Bryant is certainly entitled to his opinion—even though he said it's just plain wrong.

"For him to make that comparison, it's one of those things where it creates conversation," Jordan said. "I guess we'll never know. I'd like to think that we had 11 Hall of Famers on that team and whenever they get 11 Hall of Famers you call and ask me who had the better Dream Team. Remember now, they learned from us. We didn't learn from them."

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

JOHN DEERE CLASSIC SCORES

SILVIS, Illinois (AP)—Scores Thursday from the $4.6-million John Deere Classic played at the par-71 (35-36), 7,268-yard TPC Deere Run course.

FIRST ROUND

Troy Matteson	30-31—61
Ricky Barnes	32-32—64
Robert Garrigus	32-33—65
Scott Piercy	33-32—65
K.J. Choi	32-33—65
Brian Harman	33-32—65
Steve Stricker	35-30—65
Luke Guthrie	31-34—65
Gary Christian	31-34—65
Stuart Appleby	31-35—66
Tom Gillis	33-33—66
Bill Lunde	33-33—66
Chris DiMarco	34-32—66
Spencer Levin	33-33—66
Jimmy Walker	34-32—66
Bobby Gates	32-34—66
Duffy Waldorf	34-32—66
Ben Crane	34-32—66
Tommy Biershenk	33-33—66
Lee Janzen	34-33—67
Chris Couch	33-34—67
Ted Potter, Jr.	34-33—67
Rory Sabbatini	34-33—67
John Merrick	34-33—67
Patrick Sheehan	34-33—67
Chez Reavie	34-33—67
William McGirt	33-34—67
a-Patrick Rodgers	33-34—67
Nathan Green	35-32—67
Alex Cejka	34-33—67
Dicky Pride	33-34—67
Hunter Haas	31-36—67
Jhonattan Vegas	32-35—67
Tim Clark	31-36—67
Ryan Moore	31-36—67
J.J. Henry	33-34—67
Martin Flores	34-33—67
Steve Wheatcroft	35-32—67
Chris Riley	33-35—68
Kevin Streelman	34-34—68
Jeff Maggert	34-34—68
D.A. Points	35-33—68
Zach Johnson	31-37—68
Nick Watney	32-36—68
Charley Hoffman	33-35—68
Chris Kirk	35-33—68
Matt Bettencourt	35-33—68
Rocco Mediate	33-35—68
James Driscoll	35-33—68
Seung-Yul Noh	35-33—68
Nick O'Hern	33-35—68
Erik Compton	35-33—68
Chris Stroud	34-34—68
Brendon de Jonge	35-33—68
Chad Campbell	34-34—68
Matt Jones	35-33—68
Kyle Stanley	33-35—68
Y.E. Yang	32-36—68
Carl Pettersson	36-32—68
Ryan Palmer	33-35—68
Troy Kelly	35-33—68
Billy Hurley III	34-34—68
Randall Hutchison	34-34—68
J.J. Killeen	35-33—68
Mathias Gronberg	34-35—69
Roland Thatcher	34-35—69
Jeff Overton	33-36—69
Kevin Stadler	35-34—69
Patrick Reed	35-34—69
Shane Bertsch	34-35—69
Josh Teater	34-35—69
Boo Weekley	34-35—69
Tim Petrovic	32-37—69
Mark Wilson	35-34—69
Brian Gay	33-36—69
Jerry Kelly	34-35—69
David Duval	33-36—69
Bud Cauley	34-35—69
Shaun Micheel	35-34—69
Tommy Gainey	33-36—69
John Senden	33-36—69
Mark Anderson	35-34—69
John Peterson	34-35—69
Marco Dawson	35-35—70
Kevin Chappell	36-34—70
Derek Lamely	36-34—70
Heath Slocum	37-33—70
Marc Turnesa	34-36—70
a-Jordan Spieth	34-36—70
Alexandre Rocha	35-35—70
Billy Horschel	35-35—70
Scott Dunlap	35-35—70
Colt Knost	33-37—70
Michael Bradley	36-34—70
Jason Bohn	34-36—70
Richard S. Johnson	35-35—70
Danny Lee	33-37—70
Scott Brown	33-37—70
Brendon Todd	37-33—70
Matt Every	34-37—71
Bart Bryant	36-35—71
Stewart Cink	35-36—71
Arjun Atwal	36-35—71
Jason Gore	34-37—71
Kris Blanks	36-35—71
Jamie Lovemark	34-37—71
Sung Kang	36-35—71
Joe Durant	34-37—71
Camilo Villegas	34-37—71
Charles Howell III	36-35—71
Blake Adams	36-35—71
John Daly	36-35—71
Garth Mulroy	35-36—71
Billy Mayfair	38-34—72
Rod Pampling	38-34—72
Jonathan Byrd	36-36—72
Vaughn Taylor	35-37—72
Kent Jones	38-34—72
Pat Perez	35-37—72
Woody Austin	36-36—72
Kevin Kisner	34-38—72
Miguel Angel Carballo	37-35—72
Cameron Beckman	37-35—72
Ryuji Imada	34-38—72
Todd Hamilton	37-35—72
Sang-Moon Bae	34-38—72
Ken Duke	38-34—72
John Hurley	34-38—72
D.J. Trahan	37-36—73
Harrison Frazar	37-36—73
Mathew Goggin	33-40—73
Richard H. Lee	39-34—73
Stephen Gangluff	38-35—73
Edward Loar	34-39—73
Charlie Beljan	36-37—73
Sean O'Hair	35-38—73
Daniel Summerhays	38-35—73
Kyle Thompson	37-36—73
Chris W. Black	37-36—73
Matt McQuillan	34-39—73
Joey Snyder III	39-35—74
David Hearn	37-37—74
Garrett Willis	37-37—74
Bryce Molder	36-38—74
Gavin Coles	36-38—74
Brian Davis	40-34—74
Steven Bowditch	38-36—74
Kyle Reifers	36-38—74
Russell Knox	39-35—74
Chad Proehl	39-35—74
Will Claxton	39-36—75
Daniel Chopra	34-41—75
Scott Stallings	39-37—76
Jason Kokrak	38-38—76
Zack Miller	38-39—77
Frank Lickliter II	38-40—78

a-denotes amateur

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Norita tops SGA June tourney

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ned Norita won the Saipan Golfers Association's June Ace of the Month Tournament at Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort last June 24.

Norita drained a field-high five birdies in his round and finished with a field-low gross score of 72 and won last month's ace honors with a net score of 68, despite coming up on the shorter end of score card run-off with Das Krishnan who also carded a net 68.

The tournament was formatted with hole No. 8 designated as the run-off hole, which was coincidentally a "stroke-hole" for Das, via handicap.

Since both golfers recorded bogeys on hole No. 8, Das was supposed to win against the field of 26 golfers who turned out for the event.

However, since Das already won the ace honors last May, Norita was issued the June plum along with the second prize purse.

Norita, who also won the longest drive honors on holes No. 6 and 8, thus joins January ace Tony Deleon Guerrero, who finished June's event in third place with a 71 net score; February ace Juan L. Babauta; and April's Art Deleon Guerrero for the season-ending Ace of Ace Tournament.

Norita

Other notables from June's round included Ed Manibusan sinking a pair of birdies and seizing the closest to the pin honors on holes No. 3 and 12, Jimmy Wang, who nabbed a couple of birdies and took closest to the pin spoils in hole No. 7, and Steve Balakrishna, who pocketed a birdie and won closest to the pin in hole No. 14.

Fourth placer Jess Castro (72) and Adam Hardwicke also came away with a birdie apiece.

SGA's July Ace event is scheduled for July 22 at the Marianas Country Club. Show time is set for 9am with a 10:30am tee off.

For more information, contact Larry Guerrero at 287-1052.

MDX

From Page 28

to grab the driver' seat, 60-53.

An 8-4 opening in the fourth quarter off Ariel Jinang's 4 straight points gave MDX a double-digit lead, 68-58, before Amor Casabuena fired a triple to slice the lead to 7 anew, with 6:02 left on the clock.

However, that was the closest that Batangas could get, as it offense was in disarray most of the time, falling prey to MDX's tough defense from the backcourt. Batangas went on to commit turnovers and Bruce Berline, Martin Moreno, Ariel Jinang, and Ferdie Tobias converted the miscues into either fastbreak layups or free throws.

Moreno led MDX with his 16 points. He scored 7 early points in the first period, but lost his rhythm midway in the opening canto, which ended with Batangas on top, 21-19. Jun Abedes paced Batangas in the first frame with his 6 points.

The game remained tight in the second quarter with Batangas getting enough baskets from Joseph Galulu and Abedes to keep pace with MDX, which could not get the right combination to thwart its foe.

At the start of the second half, MDX went to shooters Abuy and Bernard Montano, while Yoshi Gabaldon, Berline, and Bong Malasarte manned the paint and all five scored to give the defending champion the spark it needed to break the game wide open.

A new set of players suited up for MDX at the beginning of the fourth canto with Moreno, Tobias, and Jinang getting the offensive job done for the defending champion and Berline performing steady inside with his rebounds.

Batangas failed to regroup after falling behind in the third, as it ran out of offensive options. Only Casabuena made more than one field goal for Batangas in the fourth canto, as Galulu was held to 4 points and Abedes nailed only 3.

MDX/Armatech 91 – Moreno 16, Abuy 14, Berline 11, Jinang 10, Montano 10, Tobias 7, Gabaldon 7, Trajano 4, Poquiz 4, Malasarte 4, Canedo 2.

Batangas/Fong's Bakery 75 – Abedes 18, Galulu 16, Casabuena 15, Gatdula 6, Jacob 6, Bernardo 4, Alanao 4, Puno 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-21, 38-37, 60-53, 91-75.

QQ RENT

From Page 28

to action in the third quarter, but was held to just a handful of points late in the period as Ashley's continued reaping rewards from its well-balanced attack and kept control, 63-57.

Mangali flipped the switch though in the payoff period and nailed three long balls early in the fourth quarter and made it a ballgame.

QQ Rent-A-Car's Lerio Pagarao also slashed to the hoop for 7 big points late in the period and the team's defense brought it home in the end.

Mangali turned in 31 in the crucial semis game, while Ashely's Jerome Norita scrambled for 18 on the short end.

In the late match, DLX found a hot hand early in Elmer Esdrelon whose 9 points helped secure a 21-15 lead in the first quarter. He also received 11 in support from Jun Abedes and Leo Galarse.

DLX then manufactured a stout 51-33 halftime lead as they contained Mobil's Jun Estolas to just a pair of free throws in the second quarter.

DLX's Esdrelon added 10 points to his total and kept the torch in his hand.

Fellow starters Abedes, Galarse, and Darwin Barbo provided 11 markers and welcomed 9 more markers from the bench.

DLX continued to share the wealth and maintained a 77-65 cushion after three quarters off another dozen points from Esdrelon.

Mobil could not muster a late comeback in the final period as DLX broke 100 and cruised into the finals.

Esdrelon finished with a game-high 36 points, while Bart Demapan's 28 led Mobil in defeat. Estolas managed 22 points.

First Game

QQ Rent-A-Car 87 – Mangali 31, Pagarao 17, Camacho 12, Paraiso 10, Faisao 8, Sison 5.

Ashley's 79 – Norita 18, Mendoza 13, Abuel 12, Peterberg 11, Inos 10, Usi 10, Mungcal 5.

Scoring by quarters: 20-13, 36-42, 57-63, 87-79.

Second Game

DLX 103 – Esdrelon 36, Barbo 16, Galarse 16, Abedes 10, David 10, Muleta 8, Guiab 6, Fernandez 6, Trajano 2.

Mobil 93 – Demapan 28, Estolas 22, Fernando 14, Bahillo 9, De Guzman 9, Hussein 8, Ajoste 2.

Scoring by quarters: 21-15, 51-33, 77-65, 103-93.

YANKEES

From Page 28

Angels colliding with the Aces.

Fielders 9, Brewers 8

IP&E-Shell Fielders came out on top of what was a rough start for both teams and mounted a 9-4 lead in the first inning off just three hits.

Early errors in the field allowed the first run to the plate and a base hit and a bean ball set up a two-RBI single for Wenser Namelo.

IP&E-Shell went on to load the bases and brought home two more runs thanks to a defensive breakdown by the Brewers.

IP&E-Shell's leadoff man Anthony Tenorio bagged an RBI single in his second at bat and, after an RBI walk, Brandon Santos cleared the bases with a deep shot, but was nailed out at the plate for third out.

Santos was called to the mound earlier in the top portion and went on to help close all but one out in the game.

He gave up three unearned runs through the first five innings to keep his team in the driver's seat, 9-6.

The Brewers stirred up some trouble in the sixth inning from a leadoff walk that scored off an error and an RBI walk with the bases loaded, Santos got out of the jam and fended the former co-frontrunners in the last three frames.

He gave up just one earned run through eight and 2/3 innings off nine hits and 11 walks with five strikeouts.

IP&E-Shell's Tenorio batted 3-for-4 with an RBI and a run. Brewers' Anthony Guerrero swung 4-for-5 with an RBI and a stolen base, while teammate Byron Kaipat went 2-for-3 with an RBI, a run, two bases on balls, and a stolen base.

Yankees 10, Angels 8

The Angels worked out an early 2-0 lead off a double by Nunu Kapileo in the first inning and an RBI single by Jay Camacho in the second frame, but the Yankees surged in front, 3-2, in the third inning off three hits and a couple of errors. John Salas cracked a two-RBI smash and scored off a wild throw.

The Yankees added two runs in the fourth inning off an early error and an RBI triple by Jerome Delos Santos, who scored soon after off a bobbled ball up the middle.

Yankees' Greg Iskawa then drove in Chris Camacho in the top of the fifth inning to make it a 6-2 score, but the Angels tied it up in the bottom frame.

Yankees starting pitcher Bobby Castro made it through four innings before running into trouble at the start of the fifth frame.

He was relieved by J.P. Sablan after the Angles bashed four hits to start the side. Marvin Kaipat bagged a two-RBI single in the mix and two other runs scored after the change from an error and a base knock by T.J. Cruz.

The Yankees stranded a man at third base in the top of the sixth inning, but escaped the bottom frame with ducks on the pond and reclaimed the lead, 8-6, in the seventh thanks to a leadoff walk followed by a home run by Tom Agulto.

The Angels got out of the inning with runners at second and third base and kept the Yankees at bay in the eighth frame, but in the end the Yankees added two big runs in the top of the ninth off wild throws and held strong against the Angels in the final stand. Dave Jones came to the mound in the inning and secured the save.

Yankees' Delos Santos scored three times and stole a base, while Salas batted 3-for-5 with two RBIs, a run, and three stolen bases. Angels' Jay Camacho swung 4-for-5 with an RBI, a run, and two stolen bases. Angels' John Reyes went 3-for-5 with three runs and a stolen base.

JERICHO

From Page 28

a Falcon."

"Coach Leo helped me improve my game, mentally and physically.And he has the right words to say in order to motivate the team," Cruz added.

Austria has also praised his prized recruit's basketball skills. "Jericho has blended well with the team and he is a very versatile player. He has good defensive skills and has a decent shot. He is still adjusting to the game and hopefully he won't get nervous in his first game."

Cruz and the Falcons, however, are facing a tall order since they will play four-time champion and five-peat seeking the Ateneo Blue Eagles whom they defeated last season to prevent a possible 14-game sweep.

Austria might still have an ace up his sleeve as he intends to use the 6-foot-1 Cruz as a big point guard against their opponents' smaller playmakers.

"Just like Jayson Castro and Ryan Reyez. Jericho is an explosive player who can do many things at a high level. He is more of an offguard than a point guard. He is not yet an accomplished playmaker where he gets his teammates involved but he is going to get there."

Paterno's legacy may now be damaged beyond repair

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Durant scores 24, US Olympic team wins exhibition

PAGE 26

Jericho to start in UAAP debut

By JON PEREZ
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

MANILA, Philippines—Jericho Cruz is anxious to finally make his debut in the bright lights and wildly cheered environment of University Athletic Association of the Philippines, the country's premier collegiate sporting league.

And the 21-year-old cager from Saipan has all the reasons to experience rookie jitters. After all Adamson University coach Leo Austria has confirmed he will play a starting role in the Soaring Falcons' roster in the 75th season that opens today at the newly built SM Mall of Asia Arena.

"I can't describe what I'm feeling right now. I guess I'm just excited to play and motivated to play at my best. I'm so blessed to join this team," said Cruz, who transferred from the Rizal Technological University Blue Thunder to Adamson after being spotted by Austria in a preseason tournament.

Cruz immediately made an impact with RTU in the National Capital Region Athletic Association where he was named to the Mythical Team in his first season after averaging in double digits to lead the Blue Thunder to the finals last year.

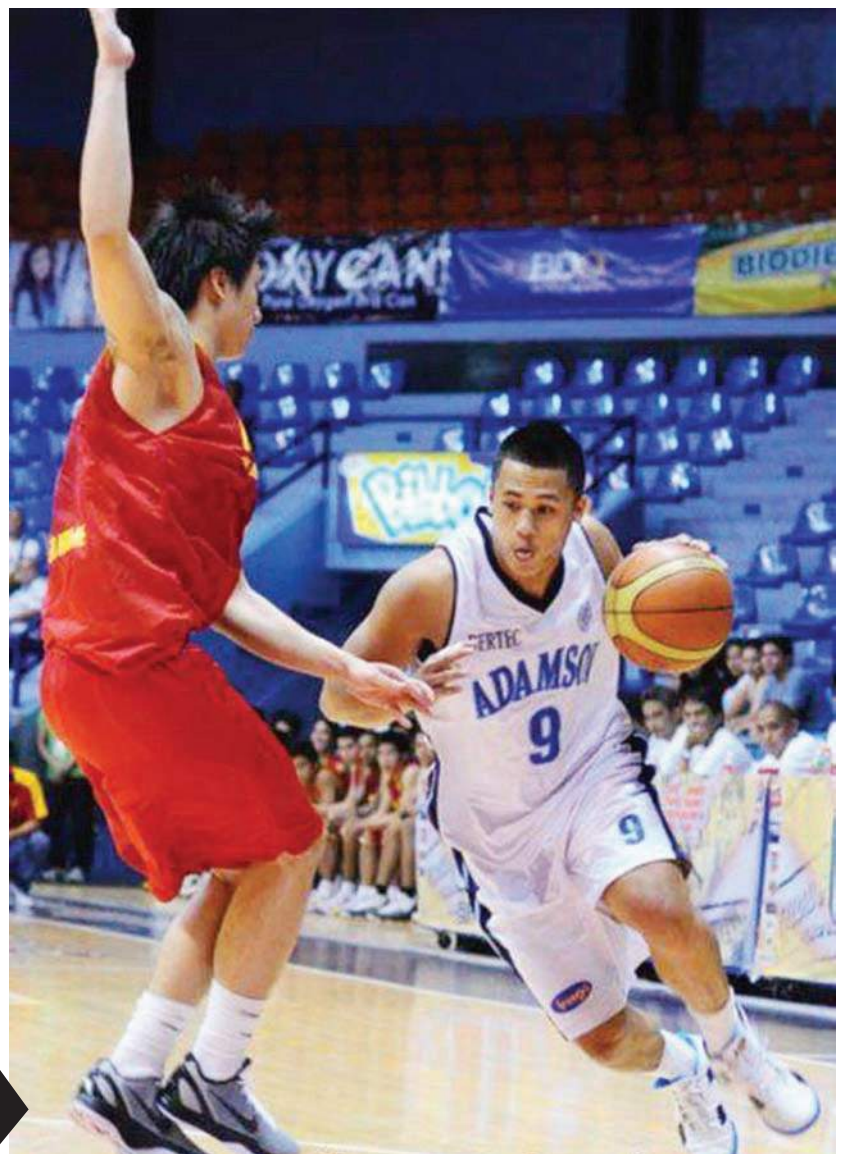
He sat out UAAP Season 74 for his residency and started playing for the Falcons in this year's FilOil Flying V Preseason tournament where he averaged 10.1 points a game.

Too bad the Falcons, who finished tied with College of Saint Benilde with an even 4-4 elimination round record in Group B, suffered a 66-71 setback to the Blazers that allowed the latter to clinch the quarterfinals berth.

Cruz said hard work and dedication to the game helped him in his basketball career. "Expect that I'll play each game like it is my last game. I will do anything that coach Leo tells me."

He also thanked Austria for believing in him. "Without coach Leo, I wouldn't be playing for Adamson right now. He recruited me from RTU. So I'm thankful that he got me to become

See **JERICHO** on **Page 27**



Adamson Falcons guard Jericho Cruz, seen here in a photo lifted form his Facebook account, drives toward the basket in a preseason UAAP game.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Yankees, IP&E notch wins in SML

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Saipan Stevedore Co.-Northern Yankees and IP&E Shell Fielders eked out close wins against separate opponents in this week's Saipan Major League matchups at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Yankees outlasted St. Michael's Medical Response Angels, 10-8, on Wednesday, while IP&E Shell's pitcher Brandon Santos preserved a five-run lead from the first inning and held off the Tan Holdings Brewers, 9-8.

As a result, the Yankees (7-1) moved into solo first place in the standings in front of the Brewers (6-2), the Aces (6-3), and defending champion Angels (5-4), while IP&E-Shell nabbed a big win on the bubble and evened its slate to 5-5. The Rep. Sylvester Iguel-Masters (1-7) and Rep. Ray Yumul D-9ers (0-8) are already out of the postseason race.

The season continues at Tan Ko field on Monday at 6:30pm with the

See **YANKEES** on **Page 27**

MDX/Armatech vs LBT/Bayani in finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MDX/Armatech's George Poquiz, center, escapes from the defense of Batangas/Fong's Bakery's Romy Bernardo, left, and Joel Buniag, during the fourth quarter of their semis game in the UFO Budweiser Cup last Thursday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

MDX/Armatech boosted its chances for back-to-back championships after beating Batangas/Fong's Bakery, 91-75, in their semis game in the 2012 UFO Masters Budweiser Cup last Thursday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

MDX, which took last year's championship against Cabalen/Wings Travel, 84-79, will defend its crown against LBT/Bayani, who routed Laguna/Twinkle/Erika in the other semis match, 92-72. The championship duel will be played tomorrow (Sunday) at 3:30pm.

The defending champion had difficulty seizing early control of the first semis match despite whipping Batangas in their first two outings. It was only in the third quarter that MDX found its form and then it broke Batangas' back in the last six minutes of the fourth frame to clinch the first finals berth.

Ahead by only 1 point at the break, 38-37, James Abuy scored 5 straight points in the first few minutes of the third off a triple and a short jumper and the rest of his teammates stepped up, too

See **MDX** on **Page 27**

QQ Rent-A-Car, DLX arrange finals tiff

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

QQ Rent-A-Car and DLX advanced to tomorrow's Blue Haus Invitational Basketball League championship after vanquishing separate rivals in Thursday night's semifinals at the Garapan Basketball Court.

QQ Rent-A-Car came from behind to beat Ashley's in the first game, 87-79, while DLX ousted Mobil, 103-93, in the late tiff.

The two winning teams will clash in Sunday's championship match at 7pm. An awards presentation will also take place during the spectacle where various raffle prizes will also be up for grabs.

QQ Rent-A-Car's Elgene Mangali stepped up big in Thursday's opener and buried a couple of 3-pointers for 11 points in the first quarter that helped his team establish a 20-13 advantage.

He took a seat early in the second period, however and Ashely's turned the tables on QQ Rent-A-Car, 42-36, at halftime.

Seven different Ashley's players came together led by the 8 markers of Rommel Usi who sunk two treys that helped push them ahead.

QQ Rent-A-Car's Mangali returned

See **QQ RENT** on **Page 27**

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
QQ Rent-A-Car's Elgene Mangali, seen here squeezing off a shot against two Ashley's defenders, scored 31 points in their semifinal game in the DLX caging Thursday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.